



THIRD SUNDAY
OF
Advent

United Presbyterian Church
1701 E. Second Street
Bloomington, IN 47401

Sunday — December 15, 2024

Elder Alejandra Haddad
Guest Speaker

812-332-1850

www.upcbloomington.org

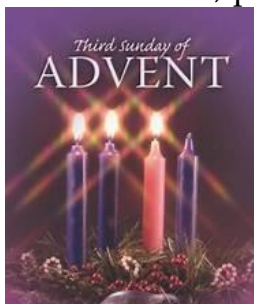
United Presbyterian Church Worship Guide
December 15, 2024 – Third Sunday of Advent



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Elder Allen Pease
The Poinsettias sponsored by Souheil & Alejandra Haddad in loving memory
of their grandparents

PRELUDE

Benjamin Watkins, piano



Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Candle of Joy – Vera & Gerrit Heitink

CALL TO WORSHIP

Deacon Vera Heitink, liturgist

Liturgist: Prepare the way of the Lord!

People: Lift every valley, lift every voice.

Liturgist: Prepare the way of the Lord!

People: And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

***OPENING HYMN** *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night* #20



PASSING OF THE PEACE

Liturgist: The peace of Christ be
with you.

People: And also with you.

Liturgist: Let us share the peace with
one another.

Feel free to greet those around you.

CALL TO CONFESSION (Liturgist)

In Jesus Christ, God seeks to smooth those places made rough by sin. With humility and hope,
let us make our confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison with Liturgist)

**Great God, as we prepare to behold the birth of Jesus again, we are mindful of how we
have failed to receive the fullness of that gift. The story points us to your glory, yet we
struggle to join in the song of praise and thanksgiving. We are distracted and confused, so
focused on things of little significance we overlook the good news of great joy that you
have prepared. Tell us again that the Savior is born. Tell us again that we are forgiven. Tell
us again that our lives can be abundant in faith, hope and love because of what you have
given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

(all pray in silence....)

ASSURANCE of PARDON

Liturgist: The angel tells Joseph that the child forming in Mary's womb is to be named Jesus.

“Call him Jesus,” the angel says, “For he will save the people from their sins.”
From his birth through his resurrection, from age to age, Jesus is about salvation.
This is good news!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

The Coventry Carol

The UPC Quartet

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION by Elder Alejandra Haddad

Gracious God, illumine these words by your Spirit that we might hear what you would have us hear and be who you would us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.



THE WORD, READ AND PROCLAIMED

New Testament Lesson *The Gospel of Luke 3:7-18* (Elder Haddad)

Elder: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

The Sermon

A Message of Woes and Refreshing Beginnings

Elder Alejandra Haddad

*Hymn

Savior of All Nations Come

#14

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH— The Apostle’s Creed (traditional) led by Elder Haddad

I Believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Gloria Patri.*

#579

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER – Elder Alejandra Haddad

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

Offertory

**Doxology*

#592

Prayer of Dedication – Elder Alejandra Haddad

***Closing Hymn** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* #9

CHARGE AND BLESSING Elder Alejandra Haddad

POSTLUDE

People Look East Dr. Benjamin Watkins, piano

*Please stand if you are able

UPC Prayer List - Email requests to: upcbloomington@gmail.com.

The Like family as they mourn the loss of Lance's father Cameron Keith Like

The UPC Congregation as they embark on their 192nd year

David Barnett Bob Hammel Kathleen Olds Anita Steverson

His Eyes Mission in Honduras led by the Colby's

Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project in Uganda led by Jackson Kaguri

Our military men and women around the world

The people of Georgia, Lebanon, Nigeria, Middle East, Sudan, Syria and Ukraine

Our military men and women stationed around the world

The UPC Session as they seek a part-time Pastor for our congregation

The faculty and staff of Monroe County United Ministries

Prayers of gratitude and safety for our First Responders

Hanover College is a residential liberal arts college with both graduate and undergraduate students, affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA). So much has happened in these last few years, as the isolation and illness associated with the pandemic can take a toll on young



lives, particularly pertaining to mental health and well-being. We pray for the healing and shalom of our students, faculty, and staff, and also give thanks for the new graduate programs in physical therapy and veterinarian medicine that we have recently begun or are in the process of building. We strive to be an inclusive and caring community on our campus and ask for strength and wisdom to work through this as

we pick up the pieces from these past few years of challenges – Rev. Catherine Knott, Campus Chaplain and Adjunct



United Presbyterian Church Staff

Secretary – Allen Pease – office (812) 332-1850; cell (812) 325-7849

Treasurer–Andy Hill – andy@andyhill.us

Music Director – Benjamin Watkins – (864) 980-7731

benjamintaylorwatkins@gmail.com

Christian Education – Melanie Mathis-McBride – susieq_msm@yahoo.com