

December 15, 2019



FEDERATED CHURCH

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

Gathered at 76 Bell Street, Chagrin Falls, Ohio

Ministers to the World: All the Congregation

Ministers to the Congregation: All the Church Staff

December 15, 2019

3rd Sunday of Advent

10 am

~Gather in Spirit~

Theme: Joy in the Midst of Despair

Prelude *Chorale Prelude on "Wachet Auf, Ruft uns die Stimme"* (J.S. Bach) Marcia Snavely, organ

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton

Introit

Light of Light (J. Raney)

Federated Choir

Lighting of Advent Candle of Joy

Anne Murphy,

Sarah, Nicholas, Joshua, Joey and Elena Lanza

One: Teach us your ways, O Light of the world.

As we gather, we remember and confess that we have not lived the joyous life you intend for us, O God. So we join in prayer:

Prayer of Confession (unison)

**For those times we have not found joy in our blessings,
For those times we have not been grateful for beauty,
For those times we have not followed in your ways,
We ask your forgiveness, O merciful God. Amen.**

One: We put our trust in Christ, the Joy of our Desiring, rejoicing that the God of our Joy promises mercy and forgiveness. As we bring light to our third candle, which is the candle of joy, we remember that Christ's light rises up and brings joy amidst the despair in our world. And so we pray, God of Our Joy,

All: Come to us!

One: Shine out in the midst of despair.

All: Shine out to light our way.

One: Shine in our darkest places

All: Shine through us for the world to see.

Congregational Response sung (remain seated)

**Voices cry out from a world in grief:
Prayers of those who seek relief.
End their darkness, hear their call for
peace on earth, good will for all.**

Choir Introit (continued)

* Those who are able stand

**** Worshipers may be seated

One: Let us pray:

All: God of Joy, open our eyes to see joy in the midst of despair.

Fill us with your light that we may be a beacon of joy for others. Amen.

One: Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's joy and peace.

* **Passing of the Peace**

(Children leave for Sunday School)

* **Hymn**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

No. 119

Prayers and Fellowship of Prayer

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx Guest orchestra (see back)

* **Hymn of Dedication** *To God, All Glorious Heavenly Light* (Tune: TALLIS' CANON)

To God, all glorious heavenly Light;

To Christ revealed in earthly night;

To God the Spirit now we raise,

Our joyful songs of thankful praise.

* **Lord's Prayer**

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 sins,

as we forgive those who sin against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Scripture

Isaiah 35:1-10

Reflection

Rev. Throckmorton

Musical Offering

Cantata No. 63 (Christians, Engrave This Day!)

Performed in memory of, and underwritten

by the family of long-time choir member Bob Faroo

I. Chorus: Christen, ätzet diesen Tag

II. Recitative (alto): Oh, selger Tag! o ungemeines Heute

III. Aria (soprano, bass): Gott, du hast es wohl gefüget

IV. Recitative (tenor): So kehret sich nun heut

V. Aria (alto, tenor): Ruft und fleht den Himmel an

VI. Recitative (bass): Verdoppelt euch demnach

VII. Chorus: Höchster, schau in Gnaden an

* **Benediction**

* **Postlude**

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen (N. Goemanne)

Marcia Snavely, organ

~Serve in Love~

Bach Cantata Musicians

Vocal Soloists

Soprano: Marian Vogel
Mezzo: Denise Milner-Howell
Tenor: Timothy Culver
Bass: Robert Pierce

Trumpet

John English
Bill Black
Jeff Pohlhammer
Regis Bookshar

Oboe

Isaac Ripple
Adrian Gonzalez
Emiliy Hodges

Bassoon

Ryan Yamashiro

Timpani

John Nichols

Organ and Continuo

Marcia Snavely

Violin 1

Roi Aldric-Trawon
Kiarra Saito-Beckman

Violin 2

McKenna Glorioso
Corinne Auger
Carolyn Downie

Viola

Claire Peyrebrune
Sydney Link

Cello

Kellen Degnan
Tyla Axelrod



Hearing Loop System Available - This Sanctuary is equipped with a Hearing Loop system that works with all Telecoil-equipped hearing aids to amplify sound with excellent clarity. For more information please speak to an usher.
