

# Peace United Church of Christ



## Worship Resources for the Third Sunday of Advent December 17, 2023

*If you have an Advent wreath at home, place it nearby  
and light it as part of the service.*

### Welcome

#### Opening Hymn      “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold Him,  
born the King of angels;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation;  
O sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!  
Glory to God, glory in the highest;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

#### Lighting the Third Advent Candle

***Prayer: Merciful God, we give thanks that you send messengers like John to call us to greater faith. We ask to hear that call in prayer and acts of holy compassion. Forgive us and lead us to your light. Amen***

**Scripture Reading**     Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11                     John 1: 6-8, 19-28

## **Meditation**

**Prayers of the People/The Prayer of Our Savior (debts and debtors)**

## **Closing Hymn    “O Little Town of Bethlehem”**

O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel!

## **Benediction & Sending Forth**