

Unwrapping the Gift of Jesus



Unwrapping the Gift of JOY

Peace United Church of Christ Worship Resources for the Third Sunday of Advent December 14, 2025

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

Welcome

Opening Hymn “Angels We Have Heard on High”

Angels, we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o’er the plains;
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains.
Glo.....ria
In Excelsis Deo,
Glo.....ria
In Excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Glo.....ria
In Excelsis Deo,
Glo.....ria
In Excelsis Deo.

Prayer of Invocation

God, we await the Promised One, Messiah, to be with us.

***Help us to be attuned to joy as it comes in quiet moments and grand displays this Advent.
Remind us, as we continue to unwrap the gift of Jesus, that your joy is made complete when
we are able to overcome that which separates us from you and one another. May we
experience indescribable joy in the One who is to come, Jesus. Amen***

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle: The Candle of Joy

Prayer: *Gracious God, fill us with the joy of your salvation. Help us focus on the true source of our delight—Jesus. May our lives be a testament to the joy found in him. Amen*

Scripture Readings Isaiah 35: 1-10

Luke 1: 46b-55

Meditation

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

Closing 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.

Benediction & Sending Forth