

Worship Guide
December 20, 2020
Third Sunday in Advent



Welcome

Opening prayer

God of Love,

Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.

He is a sign of your love.

Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent,

As we wait and prepare for his coming.

We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior.

Hymn: Here I Am to Worship

Light of the world, you stepped down into darkness, opened my eyes, let me see.

Beauty that made this heart adore you, hope of a life spent with you.

Chorus:

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that you're my God.

You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted, glorious in heaven above.

Humbly you came to the earth you created, all for love's sake became poor.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

We light this candles as a symbol of the Prince of Peace.

May the visitation of your Holy Spirit, O God,

make us ready for the coming of Jesus, our hope and joy.

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Scripture reading

John 1: 6 - 14

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Message: *Pitching a tent*

Concerns and Prayers

**Lord, listen to your children praying
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

Offering - This is an opportunity to share the goodness that has been given to you. Consider sending an offering to Centenary UMC, PO Box 630, Skowhegan ME 04976 or to an organization in your community that makes a positive difference in people's lives.

You may also offer God something that's on your heart: joy, gratefulness, anxiety, or something else.

The Great Thanksgiving

And now with the confidence of children of God, we pray as Jesus taught, saying, "**Our Father...**"

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

Closing Hymn: Emmanuel, Emmanuel

FWS 2095

**Star-Child, earth-Child, go between of God, love Child, Christ Child, heaven's lighting rod,
This year, this year, let the day arrive when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!**

**Hope for peace Child, God's stupendous sign, down to earth Child, Star of stars that shine,
This year, this year, let the day arrive when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!**

Benediction