

# *Advent Three : Joy ~ ~*

Welcome:

Opening:

Hymn: "Look toward Christmas"



1. **Look toward Christmas ! Advent is here;  
Welcome December, changing the year.  
Whistle up shepherds ! Saddle up kings !  
Chorus up angels, flexing your wings.  
*Sing, sing alleluia  
Sing, sing alleluia  
Sing, sing out the story,  
Sing about hope and peace.***
  
2. **Set the world singing, make the world glad;  
Now is good reason not to feel sad !  
Hear John the Baptist shout to prepare;  
Good news is coming, earth be aware.  
*Sing, sing alleluia.....***
  
3. **Mary and Joseph, soon is the day;  
Ready the donkey, start on your way.  
You are the chosen, willing to trust,  
Joyful your burden, carrying Christ.  
*Sing, sing alleluia.....***

*Words: Shirley Murray*

## Candle Lighting :

Jesus said "I am the light of the world"  
As we light the first candle, we remember  
God's love is all around us.  
As we light the second candle, we pray  
For the world to know hope.  
As we light the third candle,  
We bring to mind times of JOY

## Isaiah 12 ; 2-6

**All: Behold, God is my salvation;  
I will trust and not be afraid;  
For the Lord God is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation.  
With joy we will draw water from the wells  
of salvation, and you will say in that day  
"Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name;  
Make known his deeds among the nations,  
Proclaim that his name is exalted.**

**"Sing praises to the Lord,  
for he has done gloriously;  
Let this be known in all the earth,  
Shout, and sing for joy,  
for great in your midst is the  
Holy One of Israel."**



**Hymn: "The king of love, my Shepherd"**

- 1. The king of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine for ever.**
  
- 2. Where streams of living water flow  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow  
with food celestial feedeth.**
  
- 3. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
and yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home rejoicing brought me.**
  
- 4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
your rod and staff my comfort still,  
your cross before to guide me.**
  
- 5. You spread a table in my sight;  
Your unction grace bestoweth;  
and O what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth !**
  
- 6. And so through all the length of days  
your goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise  
within your house for ever.**

## Children's Talk: God's lovely world – water

### Song: "Gotta Have Rain"

If you didn't have rain then  
    you wouldn't have flowers,  
You wouldn't have flowers if  
    you didn't have showers  
No-where to swim, there'd be no babbling brook,  
    There'd be no fish to catch on the end of a hook.

You couldn't wash your hands and face,  
    You'd be as black as coal,  
All day you'd face the barren waste  
    Looking for a water hole.  
So you've gotta have rain every now and then  
    To make the whole world shine,  
    Then every day will turn out fine.

*Max Bygraves*

### Readings:

Zephaniah 3 : verses 14 – 19      Luke 3: verses 7-18

Philippians 4 : verses 4 – 7

### Food for Thought :

**Community Time: Notices, Celebrations,  
Concerns.**

**Prayers for the people: Lord's Prayer:  
Offering:**

**Hymn: "Herald Sound the note"**

- 1. Herald sound the note of gladness !  
Tell the news that Christ is near,  
Make a pathway through the desert  
For the one who brings God near.  
*Sound the trumpet, tell the message,  
Christ the saving one is near.***
  
- 2. Herald sound the note of judgement,  
Warning us of right and wrong,  
Turning us from sin and sadness,  
Till once more we sing the song.  
*Sound the trumpet, tell the message,  
Christ the saving one is near.***
  
- 3. Herald sound the note of pardon !  
Those repenting are forgiven,  
God receives these wayward children,  
And to all new life is given.  
*Sound the trumpet, tell the message,  
Christ the saving one is near.***

*Words: M.A.J. Waters*

**Time for Reflection:** A bowl of water has been placed on the table near the stones. Music plays  
Think about what baptism means. Think about something or someone you would lovingly like to place into God's loving care. Now approach the table, take a stone and let it go in the water.

**Closing:**

**Hymn:** "There's a light upon the mountain"

- 1. There's a light upon the mountain,  
and the day is at the spring  
when our eyes shall see the beauty  
and the glory of the king;  
weary was our heart with waiting,  
and the night watch seemed so long,  
but his triumph day is breaking,  
and we hail it with a song.**
  
- 2. He is breaking down the barriers,  
he is casting up the way,  
he is calling for his angels to  
build up the gates of day;  
but his angels here are human,  
not the shining hosts above,  
for the drum-beats of his army are  
the heart-beats of our love.**

*Henry Burton*