

We are more than Sunday.  
We celebrate God’s love every day.  
We are guided by the teachings of Jesus.  
We accept the challenges of the Spirit.  
We are an affirming congregation.  
We welcome all.

**December 11th, 2011**  
**3rd of Advent (B)**  
**Joy**

<b>Ministers:</b>	Rev. Ruth Cairns and the Congregation
<b>Music Director:</b>	Shirley Bunyan
<b>Lector:</b>	Stephanie Denz

*\*Denotes places in the service where the congregation is invited to stand, if able.*

**Prelude:** He Shall Feed His Flock - *from Messiah, G.F. Handel*

**Banner of Joy**

**Welcome, Introductions, Announcements**

**Passing the Peace**

**Introit:** Great Light -*M. Barrett and D. Angerman*

**Opening Words:** *(responsive)*

One: Joy will be felt around the world when the oppressed receive the Good news in word and deed.

**All:** Joy will break out around the world when the broken-hearted are comforted and given support.

One: Joy will be celebrated around the world when those who are held captive by fears know the freedom of security.

**All:** Joy will be experienced around the world when we are inspired by the Spirit to be compassionate to all Creation.

**\*Hymn:** Awake, Awake and Greet the New Morn  
*(see insert)* -*Marty Haugen*

**Lighting Advent 3 Candle of Joy:**

**Response:** MV #220: (X2) JOY Shines as the Solitary Star

**Prayer for Grace:** *(in unison)*

Eternal Creator, with you each moment of life is full of wonder. Keep us open to experience the joy of living with radical gratitude and keep us sensitive to your Presence in the routine of our lives. May our compassion be energetic and our joy enthusiastic as we await the in-breaking of the Holy into our lives.

**Silent Prayer**

**Assurance of Grace**

**\*Hymn:** VU #16: Mary, Woman of the Promise

**Hebrew Scripture:** Isaiah 61: 1 - 4, 8 - 11

Reader: This is the witness of the Hebrew people.

**All: May we be guided by their wisdom.**

**Scripture:** Song of Mary, pg. 898: refrain 1

**Gospel Reading:** Luke 1: 26 - 38

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

**All: May the Spirit enable us to grow in love.**

**Anthem:** The Magnificat *-Jim Strathdee*

**Sermon:** "Vocations for God"

**\*Hymn:** MV #134: There Was a Child in Galilee

**Offertory:** Of the Father's Love Begotten

**\*Sung Response:** VU #544 (tune 44)

In gratitude and humble trust  
we bring our best today  
to serve your cause and share your love  
with all along life's way.  
O God, who gave yourself to us  
in Jesus Christ, your Son,  
teach us to give ourselves each day  
until life's work is done.

**\*Dedication**

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer:** paraphrase pg. 916

**\*Hymn:** VU #9: People Look East

**\*Commissioning and Benediction**

**\*Choral Amen**

**Postlude:** Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring *-J. S. Bach*

**Pray for our Church**

This week, let us pray for:

*~Our presbyteries and districts and their officers and staff~*

**Custodian:** Ann Heggeler  
**Secretary:** Caroline Bracken

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**December**

**11th -10 a.m.**

**Sermon:**

**"Vocations  
for God"**