

## Community Presbyterian Church

10:30 am Dec 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

www.community-presbyterian.org

Pastor: Rev. Ken Meissner

Musician: Donna Bennett

### **Prelude** (A Time of Quiet Meditation)

The Third Sunday of Advent, we are invited to reflect on the joy we have access to because of our faith in Jesus. One of the defining characteristics of Christ-followers is their *joyful demeanor*. Let's not allow the struggles of this year steal from the **great joy** we have because of Jesus. Philippians 4:4-5 says, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near."

*"Don't you give out warnings?" Patricia Greenlee tells a story about her son who is a West Virginia state trooper. Once he stopped a woman for going 15 miles an hour over the speed limit. After he handed her a ticket, she asked him, "Don't you give out warnings?" "Yes, ma'am," he replied. "They're all up and down the road. They say, 'Speed Limit 55.'" — People have a tendency to disregard the warning signs, don't they? Sometimes that has dire consequences. Today's Gospel presents John the Baptist warning the Jews with prophetic courage of their need for repentance and conversion.*

### **Third Sunday of Advent....The Candle of Joy**

Jeff and Kris Koch

#### **'Joy to the World',** (sung following prayer)

Joy to the World, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven and nature sing, And  
Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

#### **Announcements/Birthdays/Anniversaries**

#### **Call to Worship:**

L: With joy this day we anticipate the one who is coming, the arrival of the Messiah.

C: The one we call the Word! The one we call the Light.

L: Like John the Baptist, we are not the light. In our worship, we testify to the light.

C: Our testimony is prayer and praise, song and scripture.

L: Our testimony is preaching and teaching, learning, and serving.

C: May our testimony be a sweet sound in your ear, O God.

\***Hymn** "Of the Father's Love Begotten" Insert

#### \***Call to Confession**

#### \* **Prayer of Confession** (Unison)

Mighty and powerful God, your Word says, "Rejoice always." But we would rather sulk about the things that don't go right. Your Word says, "Pray without ceasing." But we go for days without even thinking about You. Your Word says, "Give thanks in all circumstances." But our thankfulness is fleeting, because we think we deserve a multitude of blessings. Your Word says "Hold fast to what is good," while we hold fast to sinful ways of thinking and acting. God forgive us, call us to repent of our sins and believe that Jesus truly died for us

#### \***Assurance of Pardon**

#### \***Gloria**

#### **People for Prayer/ Prayer/Lord's Prayer**

#### **Hymn** "One Small Child" Insert

#### **Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture** *Lorna Peters* Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6  
Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

#### **Sermon**

#### **Offertory:**

\* **Doxology #593**

\* **Prayer of Dedication**

\* **Hymn #308** "Oh Sing a Song of Bethlehem"

\***Benediction**

\***Congregational Response** "Alleluia"

\***Postlude**

\***Please stand if able.**

**To pay your tithes online go to:  
[www.community-presbyterian.org](http://www.community-presbyterian.org)**

Pray for those at home and in rehab: Kingsley) Anna Packard, (Lawton Senior Living) Audrey Jensen, (Sunrise) Delores Handke, (At Home) Velura Stilwell,

Recent Prayer Request: The Mason family; Jeff & Cassie Loving; Brett Cropley (stroke); Raejean Furne; Debi Hammer (following surgery); Vera Horsley; Larry Lewis family; Lacy Oehlerking following accident); Kay Semple (passing of Scott); Joyce Roeschke family members (Aunt Joyce, Joanne Althbers, Debbi Ebsen); Karen Wilcox Family (Karen's passing); Troy, Lindsey and Hunter Widman Family (continued prayers); those suffering from variants of COVID; those who are grieving and alone.

Liturgists and Worship Leaders Wanted: Please take time to sign up for the opportunity to read Scriptures for the Day, offer a Children's Message, share in Special Music Offerings and join as we worship together. A Sign-up Sheet in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcomed. Don't be shy! Thank you!

The Biblical Quilters that meets at the Bronson Church is changing its name to "Biblical Quilters/Crafters" We won't exclude any form of Crafting. The "Biblical Quilters/Crafters" Christmas party will be on Dec 28<sup>th</sup> @ Elliot Creek 12 – 4pm. Christmas Joy Offering (see insert)

### **Calendar of Events**

Dec 19<sup>th</sup> – Congregational Meeting for Election of Officers  
Dec 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve Worship Bronson 5:30 pm  
Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> – Deadline to turn in Annual Reports  
Jan 23 – Annual Congregational Meeting Following Worship  
Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> – Potluck following Annual Congregational meeting  
March 2<sup>nd</sup> – Ash Wednesday  
April 10<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday  
April 14<sup>th</sup> – Maunday Thursday  
April 15<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday Bronson  
April 17<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday

### **Contact People:**

Bulletins: Bev Logsdon – [bevlogsdon727@gmail.com](mailto:bevlogsdon727@gmail.com) need by Thursday  
Clerk of Session: Nancy Todd  
Rev. Ken Meissner - Phone – 712-299-1772  
Email – [meissnerk1952@gmail.com](mailto:meissnerk1952@gmail.com)