

**Morning Worship**  
**Sunday, December 13, 2020, 10:00 am**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Beginning Music** "Do You Hear What I Hear"

**Prelude** "The First Noel" Neal and Evan Chaudhary

**Words to ponder:** "What if we live in a constant state of preparation for something great to happen? What if we truly believe God's reign of justice will come?"

**Additional Scriptures for this Sunday:** Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11;  
Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

**Scriptures for the 4th Sunday of Advent:** 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16;  
Luke 1:47-55; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**Welcome** Pastor Ed

**Lighting of the 3rd Advent Candle/Reading** Reynolds Family

**Call to Worship** (*Responsively*) Leader

**Leader:** Come! Rejoice in our God. Let us give thanks,  
whatever life brings.

**People:** **May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.**

**Leader:** Let us prepare our hearts and our world for the  
Prince of Peace, who is coming.

**People:** **May all who weep come home with shouts of joy.**

**Leader:** Prepare the way of the Lord, and make straight the  
path for God's arrival.

**People:** **In prayer, song, and service, let us prepare for  
the birth of love.**

**Opening Prayer** (*Unison*) Leader  
Spirit of God, we give you thanks for drawing near, for touching  
the world in the savior's birth. Help us draw near to you, as we  
prepare our hearts and our world for the justice and peace you  
bring. Guide our preparations for Christmas, as we share the  
good news with those who suffer, and as we offer our friendship  
to those who are alone. Move within our hearts, as we make a  
way for your coming, by forgiving others as we have been  
forgiven. Come, Spirit of God; be born in us anew, that we may  
live in your mercy and your grace. Amen.

**Opening Hymn** "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"  
Heather Arnold, Sheryl Rajpolt, Dave York, RoseAnne Homola

**Offering One Another the Peace of Christ**

**A Time for Children of All Ages** Marsha Moore

**WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD**

**Gospel Reading** John 1:6-8, 19-28 Leader

**Leader:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** **Praise to you, Lord Christ!**

**Hymn of Preparation** "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" Heather Arnold,  
Sheryl Rajpolt, Dave York, RoseAnne Homola

***Children's Pageant***

**Thoughts from Pastor Edt**

**WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD**

**Prayer of Confession** (*Unison*) Leader  
God of the prophets, we give thanks for the voices that cry out  
and demand our attention. They call us to put our trust and hope  
in you. Forgive us when we close our eyes to your vision, and  
when we stop our ears to your promise. Heal our weakness  
when we give up on ourselves, on one another, and on you. Free  
us from hopeless living, that we may joyfully love and serve  
others in your holy name.

**Silent Meditation**

**We Lift Up to God Our Prayers and Concerns**

Bill Florin

**Silent Prayer followed by the Pastoral Prayer**

**The Offering of our Gifts** *(Please mail in your offerings)*

**Doxology**

**Offering Prayer** *(Unison)* Generous God, your love renews us and restores our strength. With gratitude, we offer you a portion of what you have given to us. Receive our gifts, our prayers, and our service, that your church may become a source of hope for the world. Amen

**WE CARRY THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD**

**Sending Hymn** Pageant music reprise?

**The Lord's Prayer** *(Unison)*

**Benediction**

**Words of Assurance**

*Our Worship Tech Team*

Rose Aiello  
Eunice Alberts  
Patti Early  
Bill Florin  
RoseAnne Homola  
Amy Rajpolt  
Sheryl Rajpolt

Pastor: Reverend Ed Dayton

Leader: Patty Dayton; Children's Time: Marsha Moore

Joys and Concerns: Bill Florin

Soloists: Rose Aiello, Heather Arnold, Sheryl Rajpolt, Dave York

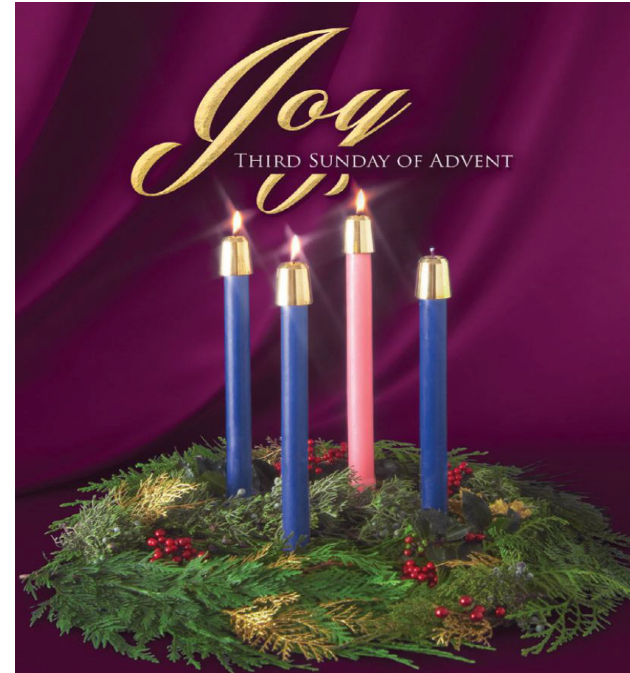
Guitarists: Neal and Evan Chaudhary

Pianist/Organist: Ron Giannattasio and RoseAnne Homola

UMC Monroe Lay Leader: Rose Aiello

LHUMC Lay Leaders: Maggie Flemma and Tim Quinn

Music Leaders: Patti Early, RoseAnne Homola, Eunice Alberts



**Join Zoom meeting:**

**<https://umcom.zoom.us/j/97378634387?pwd=WG9Hd0xWUzBEUm4xdm1oR2svQkFwQT09>**

**or by dialing in by phone:**

**1.929.205.6099 US (Meeting ID: 94299647637)**

**United Methodist Church of Monroe**

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Monroe, CT 06468

**Long Hill United Methodist Church**

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Trumbull, Connecticut 06611

**Sunday, December 13, 2020**

***"Growing in the Body of Christ"***

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