

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 14th, 2008

3rd Sunday of Advent

•Those who are able may stand

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude "He Is Born, the Divine Christ Child"

Sara Ann and JoAnn

Greetings and Announcements (Please sign the friendship register)

Gathering Song "Emmanuel"

Call to Worship (Isaiah 7:14b, Isaiah 9:2)

Leader: The Lord will give you a sign. Look, the virgin is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel (God is with us).

People: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; and those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

Prayer of the Day

Children's Sermon - Advent Candle

•**Hymn 56** "The First Nowell"

THE FIRST NOWELL

•**Prayer of Confession**

"A voice cries: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God." Lord, help us prepare our hearts for You. Make straight our paths. Forgive our sins. Cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

•**Assurance of Pardon** (Scripture from John 1:14,16)

"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. And of His fullness we have all received and grace for grace." In Christ Jesus, we are forgiven!

•**Responding to God's Forgiveness - The Gloria Patri #579**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

First Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38

Anthem "Once In Royal David's City"

Adult Choir

Second Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1-14

Sermon "Where Are The Angels?"

Rev. Joel Thornton

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

•**Apostles' Creed** (p.14)

•**Hymn 23** "Angels We Have Heard on High"

GLORIA

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

Offering Our Lives and Presenting Our Tithes

Offertory "Away In A Manger"

Sara Ann and JoAnn

•**The Prayer of Dedication**

The Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

GOING FORTH INTO THE WORLD

•**Hymn 40** "Joy to the World!"

ANTIOCH

•**The Charge and Blessing**

•**The Congregational Response** #29

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Postlude

WELCOME TO BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We hope you will find a home for your heart and an opportunity to serve.