

The Federated Church

United Church of Christ + Unitarian Universalist Association



ADVENT III: JOY

December 12, 2021 | 10:00am

help me
make
a space for you

emptying myself
to create
a place for you

spreading the straw
on the floor
of my soul

in joyful
expectation
of your coming.

“a clearing,”
by christine rodgers

Order of Worship

*All music is from the black New Century Hymnal in your pew back, unless noted otherwise.
Please join in on those parts printed in **bold**.*

Prelude

Welcome & Passing the Peace

Call to Worship & Lighting of Advent Candles

We gather this Advent in a world choked by fear and hostility.
When death and despair are our common currency,
Where can we find Joy?

In the One who promises a garland of beauty instead of ashes.

In this time when garbage chokes the seas and threats choke the airwaves;
When women are not believed, families are separated, and children exploited;
Where will we find Joy?

**In the One who took on flesh, weaving glory and grief in God's own body;
In the One who chooses the last and the least to be vessels of divinity.**

Beloved, in a world shrouded by despair, let us gather for worship.

**We gather this Advent to be strengthened with the light of Hope,
Sustained by the light of Peace, and restored with the light of Joy.**

the candles of HOPE, PEACE & JOY are lit

Come, Advent People, let us make room in our hearts, and in our world
To house the Holy Presence of God.

Gathering Hymn "Toda la Tierra / All Earth is Waiting" vv. 1-3 (p. 6)

Advent Prayer of Repentance: JOY

"The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary.' And Mary said, 'Here am I, a servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.'" ~ Luke 1:30, 38

What is God inviting you to say "Yes" to?

What fear is the angel inviting you to let go of so that you may also say "Yes"

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Advent Promise

Friends, hear the Good News: Even as we wait for the Coming One with longing and expectation, the Hope of the World is already with us. So, let us light candles to shine in every darkness.

Wherever despair keeps watch, we will light candles of Hope.

Wherever fear crowds in, we will light candles of Peace.

Wherever grief overwhelms, we light candles of Joy.

Song of Preparation “If In Your Heart” (p. 7)

Scripture [Zephaniah 3:14-20; Luke 1:39-55](#)

Sermon “A Dangerous Joy”

Musical Meditation

Our Shared Life & Offering

Announcements

Offertory

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that Love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

Sending Hymn “My Heart Sings Out With Joyful Praise” (p. 7)

Benediction *Go in the Joy of Emmanu-el: God-With-Us*

Postlude

WORSHIP NOTES

Those serving us this morning are:

Pastor: Rev. Eric J. Ogi | **Ministers:** All of us! | **Director of Music:** Gary Mattin

Liturgist: Sally Stevens | **Ushers:** Dave Wood, Pam Wagener, Chris Borresen & Bev Wildin.

*Those scheduled to usher next Sunday, **December 12th**, are: Roger Jacobson, Gip Seaver, Judy Winter & Ruth Olle.*

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Toda la Tierra / All Earth is Waiting

Unison

D D/F# Em A7 D F#m

1 To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor y el sur - co a - bier - to, la
 2 Di - ce el pro - fe - ta al pue - blo de Is - ra - el: "De ma - dre vir - gen ya
 1 All earth is wait - ing to see the Prom - ised One, and o - pen fur - rows, the
 2 Thus says the proph - et to those of Is - ra - el, "A vir - gin moth - er will

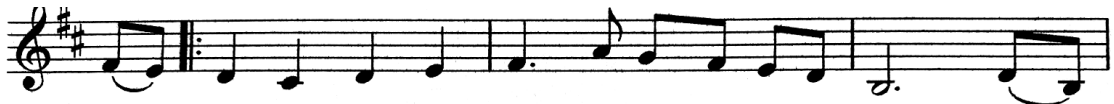
G A Bm F#m G D

o - bra del Crea - dor; es el mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad,
 vie - ne Em - ma - nuel," se - rá "Dios con no - so - tros," se - mi - lla se - rá,
 sow - ing of our God. All the world, bound and strug - gling, seeks true lib - er - ty;
 bear Em - man - u - el": One whose name is "God with us," our Sav - ior shall be,

Bm F#m 1-3 Em A7 4 Em A7 D

re - cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. (4 dar - nos li - ber - tad.)
 con él la es - pe - ran - za al mun - do vol - ve - rá.
 it cries out for jus - tice and search - es for the truth. (4 brings us lib - er - ty.)
 through whom hope will blos - som once more with - in our hearts.

If In Your Heart



If__ in your heart you make a man - ger for his birth, then__



God will once a - gain be - come a child on earth. If__ earth.__

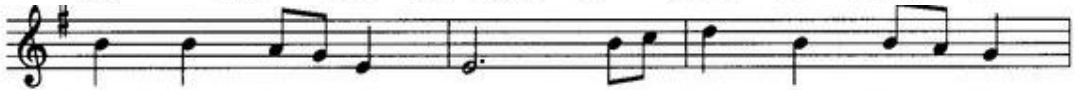
My Heart Sings Out With Joyful Praise



1. My H heart sings out with joy - ful praise To God who rais - es
2. The arm of God is strong and just To scat - ter all the
3. The prom - ise made in a - ges past At last has come to



me, Who came to me when I was low And
proud. The ty - rants tum - ble from their thrones And
be, For God has come in pow'r to save, To



changed my des - ti - ny. The Ho - ly One, the
van - ish like a cloud. The hun - gry all are
set all peo - ple free. Re - mem - b'ring those who



Liv - ing God, Is al - ways full of grace To those who
sat - is - fied; The rich are sent a - way. The poor of
wait to see Sal - va - tion's dawn - ing day, Our Sav - ior



seek their Mak - er's will In ev - 'ry time and place.
earth who suf - fer long Will wel - come God's new day.
comes to all who weep To wipe their tears a - way.

Advent Opportunities

All are welcome, including those who've only joined us online!

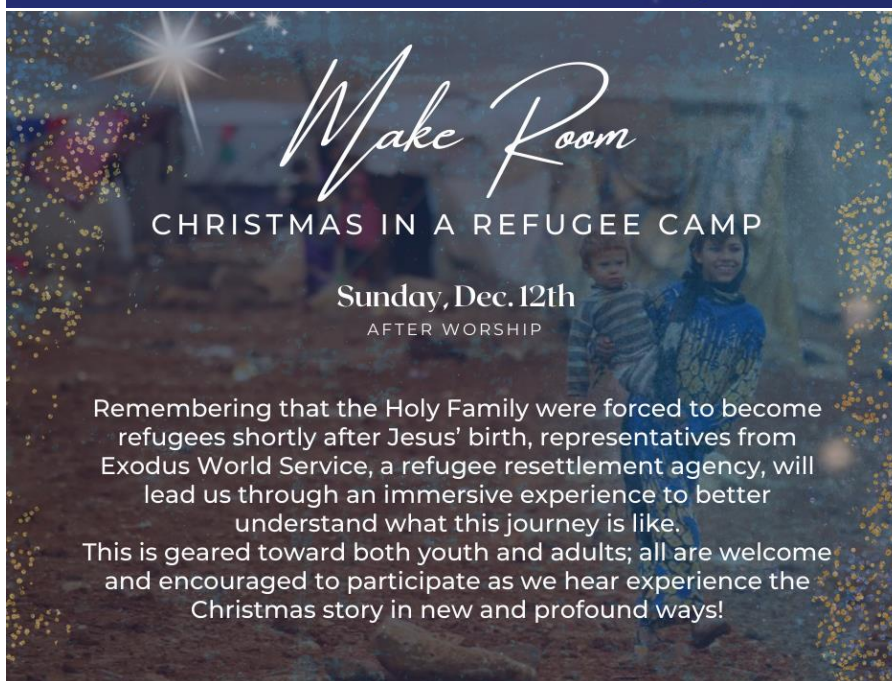
A dark blue background with faint silhouettes of the Three Kings and a star. The text is white and arranged in two main sections. The left section is enclosed in a decorative white border and contains the schedule. The right section is in a simple white border and contains an invitation. A small laptop icon with a 'click to join!' button is at the bottom right.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

Tuesdays
9-10am
Nov. 30 -
Dec. 21
via Zoom

Join us for a time
of connecting,
reflecting,
& praying

click to
join!

A background image of a woman and child in a refugee camp, with a starburst in the top left and gold confetti on the sides. The title 'Make Room' is in a large, white, cursive font. Below it, the subtitle 'CHRISTMAS IN A REFUGEE CAMP' is in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The date and time are in a white, sans-serif font. The description is in a white, sans-serif font.

Make Room

CHRISTMAS IN A REFUGEE CAMP

Sunday, Dec. 12th
AFTER WORSHIP

Remembering that the Holy Family were forced to become refugees shortly after Jesus' birth, representatives from Exodus World Service, a refugee resettlement agency, will lead us through an immersive experience to better understand what this journey is like. This is geared toward both youth and adults; all are welcome and encouraged to participate as we hear experience the Christmas story in new and profound ways!



***YOU* ARE WELCOME HERE!**

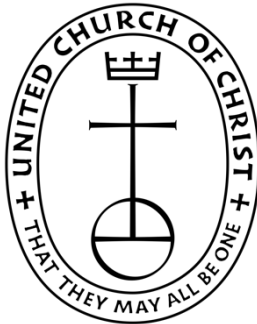
Federated Church is an Open & Affirming Community: In a time of deep division and vitriolic rhetoric around issues of race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality, and where the dignity of people living with disabilities or mental health issues are often ignored, demonized, or turned into a joke, we promise to:

Welcome all people of every age, gender, race, national origin, faith expression, marital status & family structure, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, physical ability, mental or emotional condition, economic and social status, and educational background to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings, and joys of our church family.

The Rainbow Flag: We proudly display a rainbow flag at the front of our sanctuary as a visual declaration of God's extravagant and inclusive love, as well as of our own "promise of welcome" to all people. Our prayer is that all can be their truest selves here. This flag serves as a particular signal that our church is a safe and affirming space for LGBTQ+ people to be, to belong, to lead, to question, and to grow in faith.

“Welcoming Any, Loving All”

*The Federated Church is affiliated with two national denominations:
the United Church of Christ & the Unitarian Universalist Association*



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