



For Us
AND FOR *Our*
SALVATION
An Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany Experience

THE GOOD NEWS
THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

REMEMBER

In this third week of Advent we focus on joy. Joy and happiness are two very different things: happiness is the result of our circumstances—life lines up “just right” and, for a time, we’re “happy.” Joy is ours irrespective of our circumstances. Joy is evidence that the light and love of God outlives and outlasts any fear, anger, disappointment, or frustration.

In many Advent wreaths, you will see three blue or purple candles and one rose colored candle. That candle is for this week. Philippians 4:3-7 says, “Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

READ

PSALM 98

Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

THE GOOD NEWS
{THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT}

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music;
make music to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing,
with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn—shout for joy before the Lord, the King.

Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.
Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy;
let them sing before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.

PRAY

Lord of creation, we sing your praise from within a world
that is not what you created it to be.
And yet, our song continues—inspired by your Spirit and perfected by your Son.
We pray the day will quickly come when you restore all creation.
Until then, may the praise we offer continue to proclaim your glory
and reveal your love. Amen.

LIGHT

As we light this third candle, we renew our confidence in the joy that is ours in Jesus Christ even
as we wait for his return. Emmanuel means “God is with us.”

Let us prepare for Jesus the Christ, who is anointed by God
to bring good news to all who are oppressed,
to bind up all hearts that are broken,
to take away all anxiety and fear,
to proclaim freedom to captives
and to release all who are imprisoned:
Joy to the world!

SING

“Joy to the World”

Psalm Prayer from *Psalms for All Seasons*, Grand Rapids: Brazos Press / Faith Alive / Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, 2012.
“Let us prepare...” from *The Worship Sourcebook*, 2nd edition. Grand Rapids: Baker / Faith Alive / Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, 2013. alt.



{Presbyterians for Renewal + The Fellowship of Presbyterians = **Fellowship Community**}

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