



Faith Community United Methodist Church

5315 Harford Road

Baltimore, MD 21214

Pastor Ronald S. Dodson Sr.

Church: 410-426-8177

Sunday, December 16, 2018

3rd Sunday Of Advent

10:00 AM ORDER OF WORSHIP

WE GATHER FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

PRELUDE

Keith Harmon

GREETING & VISITOR WELCOME

Cheryl Simmons-Brown

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Let us use this time of worship to prepare the way for the coming of the Lord.

What must we do to be ready?

Repent of your sins, and vow to follow the teachings of Jesus in all your ways.

We come before the Lord, our God, with penitent hearts, and seek the power of the Holy Spirit to be faithful followers of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

*OPENING HYMN: UMH #526 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

PRAYER FOR FAITH:

Heavenly Father, as we hear again the words of John the Baptist, we realize anew how selfish we have been, and how many opportunities we have missed to demonstrate your love and concern for all, because of our failure to share our bounty and blessings with those in need. Renew a right spirit within us, we pray, that people may know your love through us. Amen.

[Silent prayers of confession and forgiveness of others]

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Reader: Today we remember Mary, innocent and powerful, sacred and scared, worried and waiting as the Savior of all grows in her. She sings boldly when she might be meek; she bears her role in history with the confidence of a warrior; she is the beginning of a mighty revolution as the proud are brought down and the lowly are lifted up.

People: Today we give thanks for the Marys among us, who step out of roles society has planned; unintended pioneers determined to do as God asks; fearless and fearfully stepping out in faith and beckoning us to do the same.

ALL: On this third Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of Mary, bearer of the Way.

UMH #211 "O Come O Come Emmanuel" vs. 3

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION: UMH p. 6

[Red Hymnal]

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 12:2-6

We are ever growing in Christ, inviting each one to make a difference.

*GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 12:7-18

Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God!

HYMN OF PRAISE: "You Are My All In All" Faith Ensemble

1. You are my strength when I am weak. You are the treasure that I seek. You are my all in all. Seeking You as a precious jewel Lord, to give up I'd be a fool. You are my all in all

(Refrain) Jesus, Lamb of God Worthy is Your name Jesus, Lamb of God Worthy is Your name.

2. Taking my sin, my cross, my shame. Rising up again I bless Your name. You are my all in all. When I fall down You pick me up. When I am dry You fill my cup. You are my all in all

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BLESSING: *The story of the Chrismos.*

Kate Ehrenberger

HYMN OF PREPARATION: FWS #2164 "Sanctuary"

HOMILY: Pastor Ron Dodson

WE CELEBRATE OUR LIFE IN CHRIST

PRAISE REPORTS

PRAYER CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

WE OFFER THANKSGIVING

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY: O God, as we present these offerings as one way we have of showing our concern for the needs of others. Bless them, we pray, and through your Church use them to help meet the needs of your children throughout the world. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY: UMH #95 "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" *[Red Hymnal]*

WE DEPART TO SERVE

REMINDERS:

- **UMC East Baltimore Cluster Advent Series** Wednesday, December 5, 12 and 19; 7 – 8 p.m.; St. Matthews New Life UMC
416 E. 23rd Street *[Parking is available]*
- **No Christmas Eve service** this year. Poinsettias may be taken after service on 12/23.
- **WATCH NIGHT SERVICE:** New Year's Eve from 7-9pm at Christ UMC, 2005 E. Chase Street, Baltimore, MD 21213. The Revs. Twanda Prioleau and Jay Blake will deliver the message: **Forward Focused.**

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BLESSING WITH A MISSION

POSTLUDE *Please remain seated until the candles are extinguished and the music is finished, then go to the Fellowship Hall to meet and greet one another.*

Scripture Lessons for December 23, 2018:

- Micah 5:2-5
- Hebrews 10:5-10
- Luke 1:39-55



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