



Faith Community United Methodist Church

5315 Harford Road
Baltimore, MD 21214
Pastor Ronald S. Dodson Sr.
Church: 410-426-8177

Sunday, December 17, 2017 3rd Sunday in 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 all who love the Lord wait upon God's holy deliverance.

But the times are hard and the land is hostile.

Yet the Lord hears every plea of our hearts. We are not left alone.

Then let us take comfort in the mighty arm of the Lord.

And let us lift our voices in loving praise.

Blessed be the name of the Lord!

*OPENING HYMN: UMH #64/65 "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"

[Red Hymnal]

PRAYER FOR FAITH:

O God, often we have allowed the fears of the world around us to overshadow the promise of Your love and presence. And too often we have allowed ourselves to be frightened by people and events that hold no power over our eternity. Forgive us, Lord, and create of us living witnesses to Your redeeming power and love. Through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen!

[Silent prayers of confession and forgiveness of others]

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION: UMH p. 6

[Red Hymnal]

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah: 61:1-4, 8-11

NEW TESTAMENT: 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

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

People: Thanks be to God!

ADVENT READING AND LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

Reader: We light this candle as a symbol of joy. May the joyful promise of your presence, O God, make us rejoice in our hope of salvation.

All: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

ADVENT SONG: FWS #2090 "Light the Advent Candle" [vs.3]

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BLESSING: Chrismons

Kate Ehrenberger

Chrismon ornaments were originated in 1957 for use on the Christmas tree at Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville VA. The designs are monograms and symbols for our Lord Jesus that have been used since biblical times. They are the heritage of all Christians and remind us, regardless of denomination, of the One we all follow.

HYMN OF PREPARATION: UMH #196 "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" *[Red Hymnal]*

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

SERMON

Pastor Ron Dodson

WE CELEBRATE OUR LIFE IN CHRIST

PRAISE REPORTS

PRAYER CONCERNS: *“Turn your eyes upon Jesus. Look full in his wonderful face. And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace.”*

PASTORAL PRAYER

WE OFFER THANKSGIVING

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY:

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

WE DEPART TO SERVE

REMINDERS

BLESSING WITH A MISSION

POSTLUDE *Please remain seated until the candles are extinguished and the music is finished.*

Refreshments and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall following the service.

Christmas poinsettia orders are due to Judy today!

Thought for your journey: Commitment to Jesus means following in his footsteps as apostles of forgiveness, healing, peace, joy, and loving service. Therefore, let us go forth, proclaiming the Christmas message of love, joy and peace.

Scripture Lessons for December 24, 2017:

- 2 Samuel 7:1-16
- Luke 1:26-38, 46-55
- Romans 16:25-27

➤ Faith Ensemble rehearsal today, 12n in the Great Room

Christmas Eve Services:

10:30 a.m. Eastern UMC
5 p.m. Faith Community UMC

New Year's Eve Services:

10:00 a.m. Faith Community UMC
7 p.m. Watch-Night Service, Eastern UMC
Dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Keep In Touch:

www.faithcommunityhamilton.org

Facebook: faith.church.12

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