



wednesday, december 16, 2015-7:00 pm
the open door ~ contemporary worship

...in a religion born in a barn,
an open door goes without saying

welcome & announcements

opening song & prayer "unashamed love" chris martirano

song "Emmanuel"

lighting of the advent candle of joy

Today is the third Sunday in Advent -

the time when we prepare once again for the coming of Jesus.

We light a candle each week to remind us that Jesus

brings light into the dark places of the world.

We rejoice and sing out with gladness

at the message of God's salvation.

We shout for joy as we anticipate God's coming

into our lives and into our world.

We light the candle of hope

to proclaim that God's light is coming into the world.

[the purple candle of hope is lit]

We light the candle of peace

to proclaim that God's promises

will be fulfilled in the birth of Jesus Christ - Prince of Peace.

[the purple candle of peace is lit]

We light the candle of joy

to celebrate that God's saving power is coming into the world.

[the pink candle of joy is lit]

God of joy, we rejoice in You always,

as we look forward to Your breaking into our history

to reveal Your justice and Your love in person.

prayer

song "Emmanuel"

prayer of the people

luke 3:10-18 [msg]

¹⁰ *The crowd asked him, "Then what are we supposed to do?"*

¹¹ *"If you have two coats, give one away," he said. "Do the same with your food."*

¹² *Tax men also came to be baptized and said, "Teacher, what should we do?"*

¹³ *He told them, "No more extortion—collect only what is required by law."*

¹⁴ *Soldiers asked him, "And what should we do?"*

He told them, "No shakedowns, no blackmail—and be content with your rations."

¹⁵ *The interest of the people by now was building. They were all beginning to wonder, "Could this John be the Messiah?"*

¹⁶⁻¹⁷ *But John intervened: "I'm baptizing you here in the river. The main character in this drama, to whom I'm a mere stagehand, will ignite the kingdom life, a fire, the Holy Spirit within you, changing you from the inside out. He's going to clean house—make a clean sweep of your lives. He'll place everything true in its proper place before God; everything false he'll put out with the trash to be burned."*

¹⁸ *There was a lot more of this—words that gave strength to the people, words that put heart in them. The Message!*

children's message

pastor alex

reflecting on God's message

pastor alex

"We are celebrating the season of the Eternal Birth which God has borne and never ceases to bear in all eternity...

But if it does not take place in me, what benefit is it?

Everything lies in this, that it should take place in me." ~ Meister Eckart

presentation of the offerings

song

"arise"

song

"You shine"

dance party with Jesus

"God of wonders"

visual benediction & passing the peace "rejoice"

[benediction by kelly ann hall, music by *the brilliance*, video by *twotp*]

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