

First Presbyterian Church of Sandpoint, Idaho
Sunday, December 14, 2025, 11:00 a.m., Third Sunday of Advent

*Catherine Lyle, Pastor; Annie Welle, Piano; Dana Stockman, Choir Director
Barbara Rolph, Worship Leader; Gail Bolin & Judy McComish, Ushers
Sue Helander, Livestream*

PRELUDE MUSIC, LIVESTREAM BEGINS

LIGHT THE CHRIST CANDLE, WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS

RING THE BELL, MOMENT OF SILENCE

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Kirsten Thompson

HYMN #53 "What Child Is This" (*Chorus, Verse 3, Chorus*)

We light this candle of Joy for those who need it most.

For all whose despair feels endless.

For all who find little joy in daily living.

For all whose disappointment runs deep.

Our question for today at the scene of the nativity is this: "How can we proclaim a deep joy "in spite of" hardship in our time?"

What child IS this? This, this, is the Son of Blessed Mary who reigns with joy forever.

*OPENING HYMN #2 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

*RESPONSIVE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.** Thanks be to God!

*SUNG RESPONSE #577 "Glory Be to the Father"

Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen....

CHORAL ANTHEM "An Invitation for Advent"

SCRIPTURE Luke 1: 26-56

CHILDREN'S MOMENT "Your laughter makes others happy"

WORDS OF WITNESS "Joy as Holy Resistance" Catherine Lyle, Pastor

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #19 "To A Maid Engaged to Joseph"

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY Lord in your mercy...**hear our prayer.**

Our Father who art in 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.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

*THE DOXOLOGY #593 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen....*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN #477 "Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim"

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*FOLLOW THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

We follow Christ's light, for we are a congregation of people,

Loving, living, learning the joy of faith.

*POSTLUDE, LIVESTREAM CONCLUDES

WORDS TO SONGS

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What Child Is This

Refrain:

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come one and all, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him. *Refrain*

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Come, Thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's Strength and Consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

To a Maid Engaged to Joseph

To a maid engaged to Joseph,
The angel Gabriel came.
"Fear not," the angel told her,
"I come to bring good news,
Good news I come to tell you,
Good news, I say, good news.

"For you are highly favored
By God, the Lord of all,
Who even now is with you.
You are on earth most blest,
You are most blest, most blessed,
God chose you, you are blest!"

But Mary was most troubled
To hear the angel's word.
What was the angel saying?
It troubled her to hear,
To hear the angel's message,
It troubled her to hear.

"Fear not, for God is with you,
And you shall bear a child.
His name shall be called Jesus,
God's offspring from on high.
And He shall reign forever,
Forever reign on high."

"How shall this be?" said Mary,
"I am not yet a wife."
The angel answered quickly,
"The power of the Most High
Will come upon you shortly;
Your child will be God's child."

As Mary heard the angel,
She wondered at his words.
"Behold, I am your handmaid,"
She said unto her God.
"So be it; I am ready
According to your Word."

Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
And publish abroad His wonderful name;
The name all victorious of Jesus extol,
His kingdom is glorious, He rules over all.

God ruleth on high, almighty to save;
And still He is nigh--His presence we have;
The great congregation His triumph shall sing,
Ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

“Salvation to God, who sits on the throne,”
Let all cry aloud, and honor the Son;
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
Fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore, and give Him His right,
All glory and power, all wisdom and might,
All honor and blessing, with angels above,
And thanks never ceasing, and infinite love.

