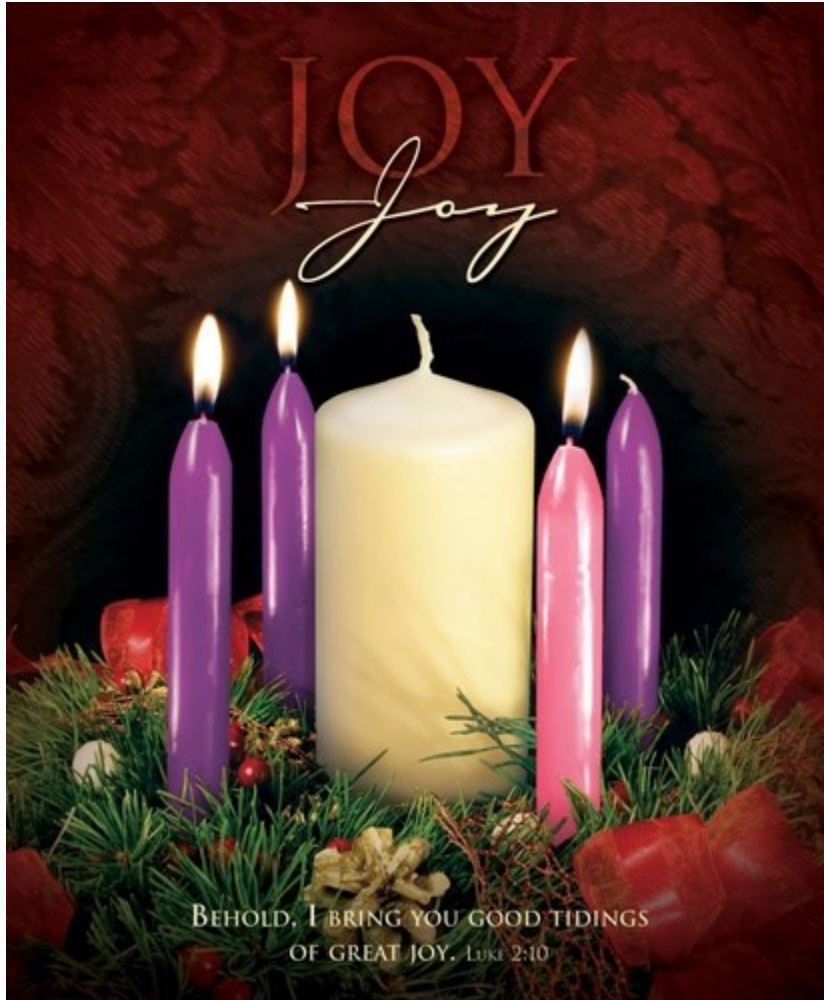




First  
Presbyterian  
Church of Port Angeles



*Third Sunday of Advent*  
*December 15, 2024*

# Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

“Christmastide”

Young

Welcome

## Call to Worship—Advent Candle Lighting

*8:30 Ardith Hansel and Andrea Fry*

*11:00 Laurie Fineout and Sandy Cates*

*“Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people, and will have compassion on his suffering ones.”*

Isaiah 49:13

Let us pray: God of joy, call us to sing, remind us to dance, tickle us into fits of laughter, because you are in our world and in our lives and doing something new, right now. Death and despair have nothing on you, and we rejoice in you, our Savior. Amen.

## Songs of Praise

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

#61

“I Lift My Eyes Up”

#652

“Lord, I Need You”

Reeves, et al.

## Prayer of Confession

Dear Father God—Holy, Just, and True—we come to you now in faith, that our confessions are made white as snow, when we place our sins in your hands. Father, we dwell on and regret the sins of our past; our vision is poor. Forgive our sins we pray. Let us move forward with you as our only guide. Father, also forgive us as we worry about the future and at the same time want it right now! Help us direct our selfish actions into sincere acts of love, driven by your Spirit. Let our fretting and worries be divided as we share them with each other, lifting them in prayer to you.

Lord, we also ask that you multiply our joys and good news. Let them always glorify you and your kingdom, both in heaven and here on earth, just as your Son did at his birth those many years ago. Empty our hearts and minds of all evil, filling them with your Spirit, that we may truly reflect you and your love throughout the earth. Amen.

## Assurance of Forgiveness

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God!**

## Passing of the Peace

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*Please greet one another with the peace of Christ.*

Solo

Dan Cobb

## Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading

Malachi 3:1-4

Jim Buckmaster

Time for Young Disciples

Chris Watkins

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:57-80

Sermon

“What Then Will This Child Become?”

Pastor Matt

## Responding to the Word

Hymn of Response

“Blessed Be the God of Israel”

#67

Minute for Ministry

Christmas Joy Offering

Offering

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him all creatures here below.

Praise him above ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayers of the People

*Worship continues on the back of the bulletin.*

## Lord's 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.

## Bearing and Following the Word into the World

Closing Hymn                      "God Reigns, Earth Rejoices"                      #91

Benediction

Postlude                      "What Child Is This?"                      arr. Behnke

### Leading in Today's Service

*Worship Leaders:* Pastor Matt, Michael Rivers, Jim Buckmaster

*Pianist/Organist:* Anna Nichols

*Worship Music Team (varies):* Beverly Brown, Jim Buckmaster, Pam Carnahan, Dick Chambers, Iantha Frazer, Randy Schuchardt, Dan Cobb

*Media Team (varies):* Paul Stutesman, Todd Haworth, Wayne Brown, Bruce McCloskey, Bonnie McCloskey, Dorita Reed, Bret Curtis, Dona Hair, Mark Wendt, Barb Pappas, Bob Pappas, Sadie Miller

*Slides:* Lauren Corder, Cathi Hughes

### Next Sunday's Worship - December 22, Fourth Sunday of Advent

Psalm 80:1-7, \*Luke 2:1-20, "Treasured Words"

"Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart" (Luke 2:19, NRSV). These words from Jesus' birth narrative in Luke's gospel are so familiar to us, but have you ever considered what words Mary was treasuring in that moment as she gazed lovingly at her baby in the manger? Was it the story the shepherds told? Was it the announcement of the heavenly host? Or was it something else, perhaps a whisper from the Holy Spirit that only she could perceive? What is it about this sacred story that you treasure in your heart?

Announcements (see insert)