

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Saint Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church
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Sis. Gayle Lang, Evangelist
Sis. Tanya S. Clark, Exhorter
DECEMBER 16, 2018

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

Words & Tune: Trad. French Carol

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him Whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

See Him in a manger laid
Jesus Lord of heaven and earth;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
With us sing our Savior's birth.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
ORDER OF WORSHIP
11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE.....PIANIST/CHOIR

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT TO WORSHIP....."HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"

PRAYER OF CONCENTRATION

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

CALL TO WORSHIP.....**Minister/Steward**

L: I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem. *(Ps. 122:1-2)*

P: For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. *(Ps. 84:10)*

L: Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek thy good. *(Ps. 122:9)*

P: Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. *(Ps. 92:13)*

L: Blessed are they that dwell in thy house, Lord, I have loved thy habitation, the place where thy honor dwelleth. *(Ps. 28:8)*

P: For the Lord is in his holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before him. *(Hab. 2:20)*

L: Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer. *(Ps. 19:14)*

P: O sing unto the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth, and sing praises. *(Ps. 19:1&4)*

THE MORNING HYMN #118.....**Angels We Have Heard on High**

THE PRAYER.....PASTOR HALE

THE PRAYER RESPONSE....."HE IS LORD"

He is Lord, He is Lord. He has risen from the dead and He is Lord. Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

SCRIPTURE LESSON.....**Luke 3: 7-18 (niv)**

(Zephaniah 3: 14-20; Philippians 4: 4-7; Luke 3: 7-18)

⁷ John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹ The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." ¹⁰ "What should we do then?" the crowd asked. ¹¹ John answered, "Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same." ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized. "Teacher," they asked, "what should we do?" ¹³ "Don't collect any more than you are required to," he told them. ¹⁴ Then some soldiers asked him, "And what should we do?" He replied, "Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely—be content with your pay." ¹⁵ The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶ John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." ¹⁸ And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

PREFACE..... **"From all that dwell below the skies,
Let thy creator's praise arise;
Let the redeemer's name be sung,
Through every land, by every tongue."**

THE SUMMARY OF THE**Minister/Steward**

M: And He said to them, you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, you shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and prophets.

THE GLORIA PATRI..... **"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning,
Is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen."**

SELECTION

MISSIONARY/TITHES/OFFERING.....**Finance Committee**

ADVENT MOMENT.....**Pastor Hale**

Second Sunday of Advent – Peace

By Carlene L. Douglas



Young Adult: This is the Third Sunday of Advent. Today our focus is on JOY. Jesus is our joy. Jesus brings us joy.

Leader: Rejoice with all your heart for Jesus is our joy! In this season of reflection and repentance we can have joy knowing that Jesus has forgiven us and restored our joy.

Congregation: Joy is liberating. Joy sets us free. We will rejoice with gladness, eager for the day of Jesus’ return when we will have perpetual joy.

Leader: Today we light the pink candle of joy, signifying our joyful focus on Jesus’ second coming. Let every heart rejoice!

Group of Young Children: Light 2 blue candles and 1 pink candle.

All Together: Joy liberates! Joy gives confidence! God has given us His joy. In this season of Advent let us share joy with the unloved and the outcast, the discriminated and the unwanted, the overlooked and the underserved. We praise you God, for your liberating joy!

SERMONIC SELECTION

THE MESSAGE.....**Pastor Hale**

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHP.....**Pastor Hale**

INVITATIONAL SELECTION

WELCOME.....**Pastor Hale**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....THE APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. The third day he arose from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the church universal, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **The Scriptures for next week: Micah 5: 2-5a; Hebrews 10: 5-10; Luke 1: 39-45.**
- **The Usher Board will be distributing Christmas Cards** on Sunday, December 23rd following worship. Please bring your Christmas Cards and leave them with an usher during Morning Worship.
- **The YPD and Christian Education will be collecting perishables for the homeless.** We will be collecting toiletries, travel size, toothpaste, deodorant, toothbrushes, lotion, body wash, combs, tissues, etc., for the Homeless for our Christmas Outreach Blessing Bags. Boxes will be set up in the back of the Church for your donations/collections. Thank you for all your help with this project
- **Wednesdays, December 19-January 2, 2019, 11:00 a.m., Pastor's Bible Study is taking a Holiday Break and will resume Wednesday, January 9, 2019**
- **Thursday, December 20, 6:30 p.m., Mass Choir rehearsal. We will be rehearsing the music for next Sunday's Christmas worship service. Please be present.**
- **The following Organizations and Ministries have scheduled with the Pastor to "organize" for the New Year. We will meet in the Annex following Worship:**
 - **Sunday, December 16, Women's Missionary Society**
 - **Sunday, December 30, Stewardess**

If your organization or ministry is not listed, please let the Pastor know. Thank you!!

- **Sunday, December 23, 11:00 a.m., Christmas Celebration.**
- **Sunday, December 30, 11:00 a.m., Love Feast (NO, we're not serving dinner).** The Love Feast is an old service to bring healing and unity in our relationships before entering the New Year. Bread (which is not eaten) and water are shared as symbols of friendship and unity, with each other and with God. There is a time of testimonials and thanks, and we're reminded of the three rules to live by (the General Rules).
- **Monday, December 31, 11:00 p.m., Joint New Year's Eve worship with First Baptist Church here at Saint Paul.**
- **Sunday, January 6, 11:00 a.m., The Covenant Renewal Service.** January 6 is Epiphany on the Christian Calendar, the celebration of the Visitation of the Magi to the Child Jesus, bearing the three gifts of Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh. This is also the First Sunday of the New Year, and we're going to use an old liturgy that originated with John Wesley, the Covenant Renewal Service, to rededicate ourselves, and renew our relationship and commitment to God.
- Please be reminded that the taxation for Church Anniversary of **\$170.00** is payable throughout the year and should be earmarked on your offering envelope as **CA170**.
- Conference Claims per **member per month is \$15.00**. Please pay monthly to help meet our Conference assessments.
- **The Seed Sowers Project** is an ongoing project for the building fund of the church. Sow a seed and watch it grow. Mark on your envelope as "Seed". For more information contact Sis. Geraldine Brown.

- **Mass and Men's Choir:** Please be reminded of your monthly choir dues of \$10.00 per month. Also be reminded that Mass Choir rehearsal is every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. unless notified otherwise.
- **St. Paul's CD/DVD Ministry to the Sick and Shut-in:** If you desire a CD or a DVD of the worship services, please see Bro. Ellis Collins.
- **Need a ride to Church School or Church, please call Sis. Tanya Clark by Saturday at 361-1426.**
- **Anyone interested in working with and learning about the DVD ministry, please see Bro. Ellis Collins.**



Our Known Sick and Shut-Ins

Charles Brown, Jr.	Renee Scott-Smith
Roslyn Collins	Judy Sears
Phyllis Dockies	Russell Thornton
Jacqueline Greenlee	

Our Known Community Sick and Shut-Ins

Armenta Chase	Mildred Jones	Odes Nash
Lewis Givens	Richard Kirtley, Jr.	Rev. James Smith
Rev. Frederick Hale	Betty Moseley	Frances Walker
Corliss Howard	Barbara Nash	Anna Williams
		James Winkfield

Please remember the sick and shut-ins in your prayers. Send them a card, call and visit to let them know you care.



Harold Ikard, Jr.	December 8
James Harris	December 15
Randy Harris	December 18
Jonathan Higgins	December 18
Susan Johnson	December 28

SERMON NOTES

Date: _____

Songs we sang:



Scripture Reading: _____

Sermon Title: _____

Sermon Text: _____

List all Scripture references mentioned:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Write some sentences about the sermon:


