

# *THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT*



Saint Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church  
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REV. WILLIAM R. T. HALE, PASTOR \*  
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Sis. Gayle Lang, Evangelist  
Sis. Tanya S. Clark, Exhorter  
**DECEMBER 15, 2019**

# JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

*Words: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788*

- 1) Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Jesus, the light of the world.  
Glory to the newborn King,  
Jesus, the light of the world. [Refrain]
  
- 2) Joyful, all you nations, rise.  
Jesus, the light of the world.  
Join the triumph of the skies.  
Jesus, the light of the world. [Refrain]
  
- 3) Christ, by highest heaven adored;  
Jesus, the light of the world.  
Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
Jesus, the light of the world. [Refrain]
  
- 4) Hail, the heaven born Prince of Peace!  
Jesus, the light of the world.  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Jesus, the light of the world. [Refrain]

Refrain:

We'll walk in the light, beautiful light.  
Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.  
O, shine all around us by day and by night.  
Jesus the light of the world.

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

9:30 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 #112.....**"JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD"**

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.....Matthew 11: 2-11 (niv)**

(Isaiah 35: 1-10; Psalm 145: 5-19; James 5: 7-10)

<sup>2</sup>When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples <sup>3</sup>to ask him, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?” <sup>4</sup>Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. <sup>6</sup>Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.” <sup>7</sup>As John’s disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? <sup>8</sup>If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings’ palaces. <sup>9</sup>Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is the one about whom it is written: “‘I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’” <sup>11</sup>Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

**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.....MASS CHOIR**

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

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

**Third Sunday of Advent – Joy  
By Carlene L. Douglas**



**Leader:** Today is the Third Sunday of Advent and our focus is JOY. We live in joyful anticipation of the coming of Jesus Christ, reminded that even now in God’s presence we have fullness of joy. We will live lives of

joy, dancing and praising and laughing and singing, even as we await God's promised eternal joy.

**Response:** We receive God's gift of joy as a reminder that beyond this temporary life of sorrow and testing, a time will come when, "there will be an abundance of flowers and singing and joy."

**Leader:** Today, we ask God to refill those places in our hearts where joy is fading or missing. In this Advent Season, let joy fill our hearts.

*(Light two purple candles (Hope and Peace) and the pink candle (Joy))*

**ALL:** Let us pray together. God of Joy, we bask today in Your splendor and majesty and draw from Your well of joy. We repent for those times we withheld sharing Your Joy with the sad, lonely, and depressed. Let Your light shine in them to remove the shadows that darken their spirits. Restore the joy of Your salvation in us, that our deserts will blossom and joy will flow from our lips. Amen and Amen.

SERMONIC SELECTION.....MASS CHOIR

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

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP.....**Pastor Hale**

INVITATIONAL SELECTION.....MASS CHOIR

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.

DOXOLOGY.....BENEDICTION

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & HAPPENINGS —

### TEACHING MOMENTS

Next Week's Scripture Lessons:

Fourth Sunday of Advent: Isaiah 7: 10-16; Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19; Romans 1: 1-7; Matthew 1: 18-25

**Church School for ALL Ages – 8:00 am *Every Sunday***

**Pastor's Bible Study – Every Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.**

### **MONTHLY MINISTRY MEETINGS**

- Choir Rehearsal – EVERY Thursday at 6:30 PM

### **CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS**

- Monday, December 16, 6:00 p.m., Trustee Board organizational meeting
- Monday, December 16, 7:00 p.m., Stewardship and Finance Committee meeting
- Sunday, December 22, Our Christmas Celebration!
- Sunday, December 29, Love Feast
- Sunday, December 31, **6:00 p.m., Dinner and Watch Night Service begins at 7:30 p.m.**, at First Baptist Church. Pastor Hale will bring the New Year's Message and the Mass Choir will sing.
- Sunday, January 6, Covenant Renewal Service.

### **REMINDERS**

- Please be reminded that the taxation for Church Anniversary of \$171.00 is payable throughout the year and should be earmarked on your offering envelope as CA171.
- Conference Claims per member per month is \$15.00/\$180.00 per year. 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 member per month. Also be reminded that Mass Choir rehearsal is every Thursday at 6:00 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 (859) 361-1426.
- Anyone interested in working with and learning about the DVD ministry, please see Bro. Ellis Collins.

### **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED.**

- **Calling Post**  
If you're not part of our Calling Post, then please text or email the Pastor using his contact information on the front of the bulletin. Give him your name, phone number and email address, and we'll make sure you are kept in the loop! Thank you!!!
- Visit our Saint Paul website to "worship in giving" digitally (visit [spvame.com](http://spvame.com) and you'll see the link for "Offerings"), get a copy of our Sunday bulletin, or see our church calendar!
- Sunday School, Sunday Worship & Pastor's Wednesday Bible Study Call-In - 218-339-7800  
Access Code - 2913187#. Please mute your phone so others can't hear you or what's going on around you :) Thank you!!!  
For Sunday School: Call in about 7:55am, start promptly at 8:00am  
For Sunday Worship: Call in about 9:25am, start promptly at 9:30am  
For Pastor's Wednesday Bible Study: Call in about 6:55pm, start promptly at 7:00pm

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Lorie Dale	December 5
Harold Ikard, Jr.	December 8
James Harris	December 15
Randy Harris	December 18
Jonathan Higgins	December 18
Susan Johnson	December 28

## OUR PRAYER LIST

The Families of Charles E. Brown, Jr.  
and Charles E. Brown, III  
Armenta Chase  
Christine Collins  
Lorie Dale  
Phyllis Dockies  
Lewis Givens  
Damon Greene  
Jacqueline Greenlee  
Rev. Frederick E. Hale  
Mary Marcella Higgins  
Pearl C. Higgins  
Mildred Jones  
Richard Kirtley, Jr.  
Norman Morton  
Betty Moseley  
Odes Nash  
Rev. James E. Smith  
Renee Scott Smith  
Russell Thornton  
Frances Walker  
Anna Williams

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

# SERMON NOTES

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Songs we sang:



Scripture Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Sermon Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Sermon Text: \_\_\_\_\_

List all Scripture references mentioned:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Write some sentences about the sermon:

