

# Welcome to



**11 December 2016      Third Sunday of Advent**

*May God who gathers us around Himself in the Word and Sacrament to bless us with His forgiveness this morning be your source of comfort, strength and renewal as you worship today. In the Name of Christ, we are all called to come and hear that the Lord is Good!*

Our Gospel reading is Matthew 11.2-15 and our response is,  
**“Praise be to thee, O Christ”** spoken in unity aloud.

Call to Worship: Psalm 146

Hymns: Opening #185 Prayer #213 Closing #186

At the presentation of our offerings we sing the Doxology # 668

## ***Studies this week:***

**Thursday – Isaiah – 10:30am or 7:00pm**

## ***Upcoming Opportunities:***

- The Men of the Well are meeting for food, fellowship, laughter & libations this Wednesday at the Ashwell SmokeHouse beginning at 5:30pm. You can meet us there (169 Buxton Dr) or meet at the church & carpool. The group from the church will leave at 5:15. All men are welcome for this great time of getting to know each one better. Be prepared to laugh!

- Today is the deadline for submissions to honor or remember someone is Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. Please submit your forms to Gail or place in the Offering. Forms are located at the Welcome Center.

- Today is also the day we collect & bless the Angel Tree gifts & families. A special “thank you” to all who participated – those who shopped, those who gave money for the shoppers, &, Gail who organized it all. Remember your child & their families this year in prayer.

- The Online Directory is up and ready to be accessed. Information sheets for using it are at the Welcome Center. **We will be taking pictures after worship this morning in the Library.** This is a password protected directory and therefore only our members will have access to it. Please see Dave Gardner for more information.

Our Christmas Caroling (at Bentley Commons) & Party (at the Church) will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Gather by 6 at Bentley & the Party begins at 7.

## **Invocation & Confession**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)

**C: Amen**

P: Make us to know your ways, O Lord, and teach us your paths. Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation; for whom we wait. (Psalm 25:4-5)

**C: Amen**

P: If we say we have fellowship with God while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth; but if we walk in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1:6-7)

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love.

**C: According to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us. Cast us not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit. Amen** (Psalm 51:1-2, 10-12)

P: Let it be known to you, that through Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. (1 John 1:6-7) He commanded us to preach and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name. (Acts 10:42-43)

**C: Amen**

**Call to Worship: Responsive reading of Psalm 146**