

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service on the Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2020

Welcome

Prelude: *'Twas In the Moon of Wintertime* – Sandra Eithun

Call to Worship

The Promised One of God brings good news to the oppressed and binds up the brokenhearted.

We are witnesses to the light of Christ!

The Promised One of God proclaims liberty to captives and release to prisoners.

We are witnesses to the light of Christ!

The Promised One of God comforts all who mourn and gives a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. Rejoicing always, praying without ceasing, holding fast to what is good,

we are witnesses to the light of Christ!

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 126

Advent Candle: Joy

Reflection by Rev. Lou Ellen Hartley

Prayer of the Day

We thank you, O God, for all those in Scripture who have pointed to Christ: for your prophets Elijah and Isaiah, for other prophets, and for John. We thank you, too, for those in our lives who have pointed us to Christ: pastors and teachers, strangers and friends. Give us eyes to see him today among those who are oppressed, imprisoned, brokenhearted, or beaten down, and we will give our testimony, too: how Christ releases and sets free; how he turns ashes into garlands; how he repairs and builds up what was ruined. We, too, will point others to Jesus, the Light of the world. Amen.

Hymn: *My Soul Gives Glory to My God*

Prayers of Intercession

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.

Old Testament: Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11

Gospel Lesson: John 1:6–8, 19–28

Sermon: Joy

Rev. Lou Ellen Hartley

Prayer of Dedication for the Pledges and Offerings

Hymn: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Charge

Blessing

Postlude: *Noël Nouvelet* – Anna Laura Page

*A portion of this service is drawn from Feasting on the Word, used by permission.
Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music performed by Lorie Francis and
Jeff Sandquist.*