

Manilla United Methodist Church

December 14, 2025
Third Sunday of Advent
"Christmas as a Kid Again"

"For it is good to be children sometimes, and never better at Christmas when its mighty Founder was a child Himself."—Charles Dickens

*Please stand as you are comfortable

Bold print indicates congregational response

Prelude Video— "Tell Me the Story of Christmas" (about 5:16)

***Call to Worship:**

L: In the times of darkness and fear, God is ever near to love and guide us. In the times of joy and dancing, God is ever near in celebration. At all times and in all places, God is always with us, sustaining, healing, loving.

P: Come, Loving God, fill our hearts with Joy.

Opening Prayer (Unison):

Heavenly Father, this third week of Advent, let us remember that the good news of Jesus' birth has the power to bring us great joy this Christmas season. Our joy isn't dependent on what is going on in our lives, in our world, or the people that we are with. It doesn't depend on the gifts we give or the gifts we find under the tree. No earthly thing can ever give us complete joy. Our joy comes from you. That joy that flooded the hearts of the shepherds, the angels, the wise men, the hosts of heaven, and Mary and Joseph is the joy that still has the power to overwhelm our hearts with rejoicing.

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

TFWS #2090—verses 1,2,3,— "The Advent Song" (no backup video) If CD can't be played there will be no song here.

***Opening Hymn—TFWS #2095— "Star Child" (prefer video backup with CD)**

Reading— "A Prayer for the Children"

Silent Prayer

Offering — *Offering Prayer — Lord's Prayer (tune "Away in a Manger", see bulletin insert if you cannot see video.) If CD is played, song has three verses

Song— "My Favorite things"

Scripture: Various

Message— "Catching Joy"

Remembering Our Favorite Things

Video Singalong— "What Christmas is About"

A Few Christmas funnies

Video— "Bethlehemian Rhapsody"

Interactive Christmas Story

***Benediction/Sending Forth**

Video— “Joy to the World” (backup with CD UMH#246)

Extinguishing of Altar Candles

Postlude video “Birthday Party of the King”

December 21

Greeters/Candle lighter/Liturgist: Lillian Justice

December 28

Greeters/Candle lighter/Liturgist: Sandi Brus

January 4

Greeters/Candle lighter/Liturgist: Barb Wuestewald

Communion Steward: Barb Wuestewald

January 11

Greeters/Candle lighter/Liturgist: Kathy Jorgensen

Manilla United Methodist Church

559 5th Street

Manilla, IA 51454

(712) 654-5785

Website: www.manningumc-manillaunited.com

Pastor's Landline #712-653-3017

Pastor's Cell #712-292-3374

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WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH



Manilla United Methodist Church

Pastor Lori Shannon