

Advent 3 Joy
December 12
in person, in sanctuary

Es Ist Ein' Rose

Call to Worship

Friendly Beasts

Welcome home *Gather us in – Gather us in.*

Silent Prayer

Listen!

by Joel Raney

Advent Candle Lighting

Jim Smythe

Lo How a Rose

trad. German

Luke 1: 39-56

Darlene Pranke

Angels We Have Heard on High

Fierce Mary

I Saw Three Ships

Blessing the Offering The plate will be at the back of the sanctuary
before and after worship

Prayer and the Prayer Jesus Taught

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

Benediction

Es Ist Ein' Rose

Welcome, Keri Lynn Zwicker!

Third Sunday in Advent

I will light three candles
to sparkle with joy.
For God lights constellations
and the tips of angel wings
light years far away,
and light years as near as breath.

We light (and help to blow out)
ninety-five candles on a birthday cake,
luminarias - the small paper lanterns as we celebrate a relationship,
the smile of a pumpkin,
marshmallow of a 'smore,
branches of a Christmas tree,

and exterior lights that brighten our entrance to say -
this is a church that welcomes all,
every age, race, education,
ability, orientation, ethnic origin,
gender identity, job status,
old friend or stranger becoming new one,
those who claim their history
and their identity,
others who close their lips to listen
and feel the joy in their hearts.

**We raise three candles,
and know we cannot do it by ourselves
for each of us have only two hands.**

For ordinary, available, gentle, brave,
and with wide-open doors,
is the hope, peace and joy of Advent.

**I will light Candles this Christmas,
Candles of joy despite all the sadness,
Candles of hope where despair keeps watch,
Candles of courage for fears ever present,
Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days,
Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens,
Candles of love to inspire all my living,
Candles that will burn all year long** (Howard Thurman)

with thanks to Maren Tirabassi