



St Ives Uniting Church

15 December 2024

Advent 3

Lighting the third Advent Candle

We light the Candle of Joy with our hearts full of anticipation.
Knowing that God's Kingdom is near, and that we live in the joyous hope that Jesus brings.

Response: 265 O come, O come Emmanuel (3 verses)

Welcome and call to worship

Hymn: 152 Joyful, joyful

Prayers of adoration and confession

Responsive Reading: Isaiah 12:2-6

² Surely God is my salvation;

I will trust and not be afraid.

The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my song;

he has become my salvation."

³ With joy you will draw water

from the wells of salvation.

⁴ In that day you will say:

"Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;

make known among the nations what he has done,

and proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵ Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things;

let this be known to all the world.

⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion,

for great is the Holy One of Israel among you."

Assurance of forgiveness

Hear Christ's word of grace, "Your sins are forgiven."

**Hallelujah! Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth
peace to those on whom his favour rests**

Hymn: 217(i) Love divine

Notices

Lawrence Peak

Bible readings

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Annette Burne

¹⁴ Sing, Daughter Zion;
shout aloud, Israel!

Be glad and rejoice with all your heart,
Daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵ The Lord has taken away your punishment,
he has turned back your enemy.

The Lord, the King of Israel, is with you;
never again will you fear any harm.

¹⁶ On that day
they will say to Jerusalem,
"Do not fear, Zion;
do not let your hands hang limp.

¹⁷ The Lord your God is with you,
the Mighty Warrior who saves.

He will take great delight in you;
in his love he will no longer rebuke you,
but will rejoice over you with singing."

¹⁸ "I will remove from you
all who mourn over the loss of your appointed festivals,
which is a burden and reproach for you.

¹⁹ At that time I will deal

with all who oppressed you.
I will rescue the lame;
I will gather the exiles.
I will give them praise and honour
in every land where they have suffered shame.
²⁰ At that time I will gather you;
at that time I will bring you home.
I will give you honour and praise
among all the peoples of the earth
when I restore your fortunes
before your very eyes,”
says the Lord.

For the word of the Lord

Thank be to God

Philippians 4:4-9

Marian Kingham

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. ⁹ Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

For the word of the Lord

Thank be to God

Sermon: Joy.

Hymn: 313 Good Christians all, rejoice

Offering and prayer

Prayers of the people and the Lord's prayer

Lawrence Peak

Hymn: 268 Joy to the world

Benediction

Sung blessing: 755 You shall go out with joy (sung twice)

Postlude

Pianist

Deb Marshall

