

# An Advent Prayer for Joy

This third week of Advent, let us remember that the good news of Jesus' birth has the power to bring us great joy during 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 also doesn't come from what we have on earth; no earthly thing can ever give us complete joy. Our joy comes from You. The 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.

Father, you offer that same joy to us now. You gave us a reason to celebrate when you gave us the unspeakable gift of Jesus Christ. You came to dwell among us. You went to Calvary's cross for us. You overcame death and rose from the dead for us. You forgive our sins and give us eternal life when we believe in you. Our joy is the gift that you gave us that first Christmas. Flood our hearts with joy this Advent season as we reflect on the good news of Jesus' birth. Amen.

## Year End Giving Update

New Roof **\$55,000** 



Thank you for your generous support of Zion again this year! There are two Sundays left in 2025, and we need approximately \$24,000 to meet our anticipated operating expenses. Also, if you would like to donate to the Roof Fund, Vecinos or Vida Feliz Senior Center in Bolivia as part of your year-end giving, please write those checks to Zion with the specific fund noted in the memo. All other charitable donations should be sent directly to the organization of choice.

Please scan the QR code to access Zion's online giving options.





6124 S. Whiskey Hill Rd, Hubbard, OR 97032, zionmennoniteoregon.org, Office hours: 9am-noon Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday - zionmc@canby.com



Growing together as a Christ-centered community, worshipping God, extending our Anabaptist branch into our world, bearing the lasting fruit of discipleship, and planting the seeds for God's reign through hospitality, service and reconciliation with God and others.



PRELUDE
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
CALL TO WORSHIP
Isaiah 55:1-13
ADVENT READING AND CANDLE LIGHTING
CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

He Came Down (VT 239)
We Dream of a Turning (VT 209)
Angels, From the Realms of Glory (VT 265)

OFFERING BLESSING PASSING THE PEACE

MCC Trim the Tree Collection CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

> To Us a Child of Hope Is Born (VT 259) Angels We Have Heard on High (VT 249) RS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE BENEDICTION

Prelude: Zion Youth Worship Leader: Gina Hansen Song Leader: Stan Oyer Children's Program Director: Chris Keady

Thank you for joining us in worship today. Please contact our Church Office if you would like to be included in our church correspondence, if you would like prayer, or a pastoral visit.

zionmc@canby.com | 503-651-2274

### Sunday

8:30am	Potluck Fellowship Breakfast
9:00am	Sunday School Classes for all ages

10:15am Worship Service

After Children's Time, parents have the option for their K-5th Grade children to meet in the foyer where they will then be escorted to the gym for a supervised playtime for the remainder of the service.

### This Week

Tue, 10:00am Bible Study via Zoom Wed, 2:00pm Senior Christmas Tea Sat, 4:00pm Sing Your Own Messiah

### **Nursery Schedule**

This week: Louise Gingerich, Stacy Berkey Next week: Chris Keady, Kaitlin Kauffman

### **Budget Report:**

12/7/25 Offering: \$18,250.55

Pastor Steve will be out of the office enjoying vacation time from December 7-20. For emergencies, please contact Pastor Jana. For non-emergencies, contact the Church Office.

# Children's Christmas Program

We hope you enjoy today's performance of four monologues taken from <u>Caroling</u>, <u>Caroling</u> by Susan A.J. Lyttek; produced by special arrangement with Christian Publishers, and directed by Chris Keady.

Scene 1 Away In a Manager: Two women at the manger at Jesus'

birth

Scene 2 O Little Town of Bethlehem: Three young shepherds in the

fields with their sheep on the night of Jesus' birth.

**Scene 3** Go Tell It on the Mountains: Three older shepherds that

went to the manger and saw baby Jesus.

**Scene 4** *Joy to the World:* Modern day Christmas Eve choir practice.

The Pastor is asking the choir why they come together to

celebrate the birth of Jesus.



# Upcoming Holiday Events

### Senior Christmas Tea

Wednesday, December 17 | 2-4PM Fellowship Hall

### Sing Your Own Messiah

Saturday, December 20 | 4PM Refreshments to follow - please bring finger foods to share \*See below for additional details

### **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

Wednesday, December 24 | 6PM

### **New Year's Eve Celebration**

Wednesday, December 31 | 8PM-11PM

\*There will be a rehearsal for the choir at 3pm, 1 hour prior to performance. The director, Tom Gingerich, asks that singers consider practicing the following choruses at home:

4, 7, 9b, 12, 17, 22, 24, 33, 44, 46 and 53.

### TRIM THE TREE WITH MCC

Thank you for your generous giving to support Mennonite Central Committee's spreading of joy to families and communities worldwide. On December 7th, we collected \$1,085.86! If you would like to participate, please select from: Chickens \$12, Ducks \$15, Clean Water \$25, Keeping Girls in School \$50, or Hope \$ of any amount. Any donations by check should be made out to Zion and have "MCC Giving Tree" specified on the memo line.