

Welcome to . . .
The Presbyterian Church of Saint David
December 17, 2017
Third Sunday of Advent

Opening Response

L> A tiny jewel of light dances on the edge of the horizon:
a solitary star before sunrise glimmers a promise of dawn at the
end of the world's blight.

**ALL> It is the light of the world, "Emmanuel" (God-with-us),
the Promised One.**

Come to us, Emmanuel!

**We have seen your light and gather here
awaiting the day of your coming.**

HYMN: 534 All who hunger, gather gladly

Prayer: (said together)

Who are we, Lord God, that you should come to us?

**Yet you have visited your people
and redeemed us in your Son.**

**As we prepare to celebrate his birth,
make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your word,
and move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works.**

**We ask this through him whose coming is certain,
whose day draws near,
your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

RESPONSE in Preparation for the Readings:

L> O God of the weak, O God of the lowly,
O God of the righteous, O shield of your people,

ALL> speak now through your Word.

The Word of God: *Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11* p. 691 (NRSV)

Psalms 126 p. 572 (NRSV)

I Thessalonians 5:16-24 p. 205 (NRSV)

L> For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us.

ALL> Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Blessing, Prayers for Others

Spoken response: L> O Lord, hear us. P> **Graciously hear us.**

Communion

Prayer

Hymn: 122 vv 1,6,7 Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel

Blessing:

L> The Wonderful Counsellor guide you,
The Mighty God protect you,
The Everlasting Father be with you,
The Prince of Peace inspire you,
And the blessing of God be upon you, now and evermore.

ALL> Amen.