

United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak

1176 E. Main Street, Shrub Oak, NY 10588

Pastor
Music Director
Organist
Liturgist
December 16, 2018

Reverend Iwy Patel-Yatri
Rob Gutowski
Alex Shkoda
John Krueger
3rd Sunday of Advent

10:30 a.m.

**Please rise in body and/or spirit.*

Please take time to greet and welcome each other in the name of Jesus Christ.

“THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT”

“Abide in Me”... “Love One Another”... “Bear Fruit”

Prelude

Parish Concerns, Announcements, and Praise

Please silence your cell phones during the worship service.

Opening Prayer (In Unison):

God of our baptism, renew in us today the gifts of your Holy Spirit and fire. We have come together, eager for good news. We are here for instructions, ready to do the work you call us to do in the world. Equip us in this time of worship to draw deeply from the waters of salvation. Fill us with your love that we may pass it on. Recall us to truth and excellence and justice in all we say and do. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** “Angels from the Realms of Glory” **UMH #220**

Scripture Reading: **Philippians 4:4-7**

Gospel: **Luke 3:7-18**

Liturgist: The Word of God to the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem: “Listen Here”

Offering of Gifts and Tithes

Offertory: “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” **UMH #229**

***The Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, praise him all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

O God of peace, we rejoice in the privilege of giving without fear. You come to us daily with blessings too numerous to count. You are the Holy One whose presence relieves our anxieties, feeds our hungers, and stirs our compassion. Through our offerings, we express our gratitude. As we give of ourselves, we respond to your call to bear fruit and to make your name known among the nations. Thank you for accepting all we offer. Amen.

Children’s Moment: **Lisa Grace**

Light the Advent Candle: **(Verses 1-3)** **FWS #2090**

(Children will go to Sunday school)

***Hymn of Preparation:** “When Jesus Came to Jordan” **UMH #252**

The Good News: **Pastor Iwy**

The Pastoral Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we

Forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***Recessional Hymn:** “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

UMH #224

***Commission and Blessing:**

The whole universe is God’s dwelling place.

Find your home with God wherever you go.

Surely God is our salvation;

We will trust and not be afraid.

Rejoice, for Christ has come and is coming,

Whose presence brings peace to our hearts and minds.

We can do all things in Christ, who strengthens us.

We have much to share with the world.

God, who has blessed you, commissions you for service.

Shout and sing for joy; praise God in all you do.

God has renewed and refreshed us this day.

God’s strength will be our song wherever we go. Amen. Amen.

Postlude:

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The flowers on the altar are given by Connie Vollmer with “Blessings to Kathy and Chip Schnarel on their 37th Wedding Anniversary”

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Serving Today:

Acolytes: Children of the Church

Coffee Hour: Jean Engel

Crib & Toddler Care: Bonnie Hutta

Greeters: Beth Gilleo & Don Hoffmann

Ushers: Debbie Vesuvio, Joy Santaroni, and Patti Scozzari

Today: **9:30 am Adult Sunday school; 12:30 pm - Caroling at the JV Mall; 12 noon -1 pm Choir Practice; 9:30 am Youth Group Visit to NYC 6:30 pm Women’s Small Group, GP Room; 7:30 pm Vision Table**

Monday: **10 am & 8 pm Bible Studies, GP Room**

Tuesday: **10:30 am Small Group 1, GP Room**

Wednesday: **11am Prayer Group, Chapel**

Thursday: **10 am Small Group 2; 11 am Crafts for a Cause, GP Room**

Friday: **10 am – 1:00 pm Christmas Pageant Practice**

Saturday: **Christmas Pageant during Worship**

Next Sunday: **7 pm Christmas Eve Candle Light Service**

Next Monday:

We welcome all visitors and are happy you chose our church to worship. Please fill out the visitor card in the pews and indicate if you would like the Pastor to call on you. If you are interested in joining our church, please talk to Maxine Haigh, Pastor Iwy or call the office. **Attention, parents of young children:** On the back shelf, there are liturgical activity sheets for the children that are linked with morning worship. Please feel free to get one for your child.

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Scripture Reading - Philippians 4:4-7

³ Be glad in the Lord always! Again I say, be glad! Let your gentleness show in your treatment of all people. The Lord is near. Don't be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading - Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.