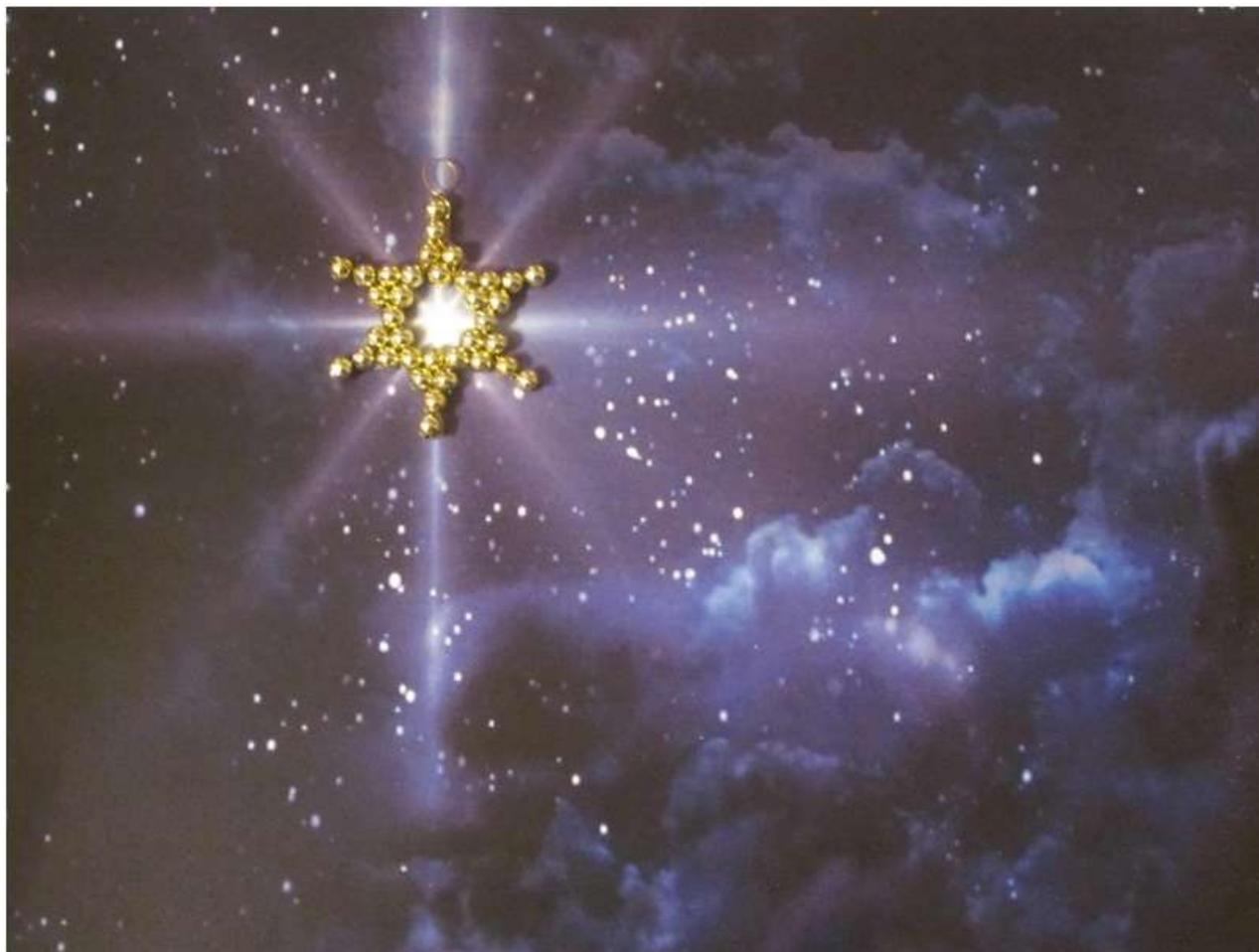


**Third Sunday in Advent
December 17, 2017
“Reflecting the Light”**



Delta Presbyterian Church

Strengthening Christ in us

Sharing Christ among us

Showing Christ around us

www.deltapresby.org

Order of Worship
Sunday, December 17, 2017
3rd Sunday in Advent

Prelude

Frederick Isaac, Pianist

Tolling of the Bells

Gathering for Worship

****Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

Sharon VanCourt, Lay Leader

The LORD God's spirit is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me.
He has sent me
to bring good news to the poor,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim release for captives,
and liberation for prisoners,
2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor
and a day of vindication for our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
3 to provide for Zion's mourners,
to give them a crown in place of ashes,
oil of joy in place of mourning,
a mantle of praise in place of discouragement.

They will be called Oaks of Righteousness,
planted by the LORD to glorify himself. Isaiah 61:1-3

Let there be light.

The advent wreath marks our time of waiting through this season, as we live in expectation of Christ's promised return and the celebration of his birth.

We lit the first candle as a reminder to look for God's light in the world.

Let there be light.

Last week we lit the second candle on the Advent wreath, as a sign of our longing for God's presence in a broken world.

Let there be light.

Today we light the third candle of the Advent wreath, as a reminder of our responsibility to reflect God's light in the world.

Let there be light.

****Hymn**

Here I Am to Worship

Strengthening Christ in Us

Prayer of Confession

**Loving God, we know we are called to reflect your light
in the dark corners of the world.**

**Forgive us for those times when we prefer
to hide and stay safe.**

**Give us the courage to truly shine with your light,
that we might be a reflection of your love and grace.**

(time for silent confession)

Give us the faith to commit ourselves to

**Strengthening Christ in us
Sharing Christ among us and
Showing Christ around us. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

The good news of this Advent season
is forgiveness of sin and new life.

Let us commit our lives to Christ's way of hope and peace.

**Thanks be to the Advent God,
who comes among us,
setting us free to love and serve.**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

**Passing of the Peace

Response **Joy to the World (vs. 3)

Scripture Lesson **1 Thessalonians 5:16-24** (CEB)

Anthem **Child of the Light**

Celebration Choir

Scripture Lesson **John 1:6-8, 19-29** (CEB)

Children's Sermon

Hymn **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** (vs. 6)
(Children may go downstairs for Sunday School.)

Proclamation of the Word **Reflecting the Light**

Rev. Wendy S. Pratt

He himself wasn't the light, but his mission was to testify concerning the light.

John 1:8

Hymn of Response **Shine, Jesus, Shine

**Sharing Christ Among Us--
Showing Christ Around Us**

Offering

(Children in 5th grade and up may go downstairs for Sunday School)

Response **Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn (vs. 1)

Life in the Community

Prayers For Those Among & Around Us/Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

**Challenge & Blessing

Closing Response **Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (vs. 2)

Postlude

***Please stand if you are able to do so*

Delta's 2017 Chrismon is the Creator's Star. It is a reminder of our all-loving Creator, who made the world in six days. That is why the star has six points. It also symbolizes Jesus as the Light of the World.



Welcome to Delta Presbyterian Church!

We are pleased to have you worshipping with us this morning. We provide this information to help you fully participate in the worship of God. Please take a moment to sign the guest book on the stand in the back of the sanctuary (worship space) to the left of the drinking fountain. We invite you to stay for our fellowship time following the service. Feel free to help yourself to the coffee and hot water (for tea) that is available in the back of the sanctuary before and after worship.

Everything you need to participate in worship is on the screen. If you are able, you are invited to stand when the congregation stands.

Restrooms are in the back of the sanctuary on the left.

There is information on the activities at Delta on the counter in the Commitment Center. The Commitment Center is on your left as you leave the sanctuary.

We welcome the sound of children in worship. If your young child is distracting to **you**, you are welcome to do any of the following:

- Get up and move to the back. The colorful bags have small items designed to keep children busy. They are welcome to play with them on the floor in front of the Commitment Center, or you may take the bags to your seats.
- There is a nursery available downstairs. Exit the sanctuary via the door on the right and go straight down the stairs. The nursery (101) is at the foot of the steps on the right. Pagers are available to notify you if your child needs you.
- There is a cry room (202) where you can take your child. Instead of going downstairs, go down the hall and the cry room is on the right. You can view the worship service through a window. The cry room is equipped with a changing table.

Preschool through early elementary children are dismissed following the Children's Sermon. They may either return to their seats, or go downstairs to the Nursery (101 infants & toddlers), or Sunday School (Room 107) Older elementary and youth are dismissed during the offering to go down to the gathering room, except when there is a Fellowship Meal following worship. There are clipboards with worksheets for them to fill out and take downstairs with them.

Church Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday, 9:00am – 3:00pm

Delta Presbyterian Church

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