

### Third Week of Advent — Joy

The first Sunday, we lit the candle of hope. On the second Sunday, we lit the candle of love. Today, we light the candle of joy. One thing that sometimes happens as we get ready to celebrate Jesus' birth is we expect to be happy all the time. Joy is not the same as happy. Joy is a deeper feeling created by knowing that God cares for us. Joy is remembering that God sent Jesus so we would always know of God's care. During Advent, we pray that we may remember again God's gift of Jesus to the world and know the joy that gift brings to all people.

When we look at the third candle, we remember God's promise of joy. God promised to send a Savior to the people. Today we read from the Gospel of Luke. In the Scripture, we read Mary's song of praise and joy. There must have been times when Mary was frightened, worried, fearful, and sad. But we have these words of joy, even in a time when she was unsure of the future. Her words can guide us to look for the joy of God, even when things may be uncertain for us. (Read Luke 1:47-55)

Who in our world needs God's joy?  
What are our hopes for joy in our world today?  
How do we help others know that God gives joy?

Prayer: Dear God: Thank you for your son, Jesus. Thank you for the joy remembering Jesus' birth brings to us today. Help us live in such a way that our words and our actions help others know of the joy you give.  
AMEN.

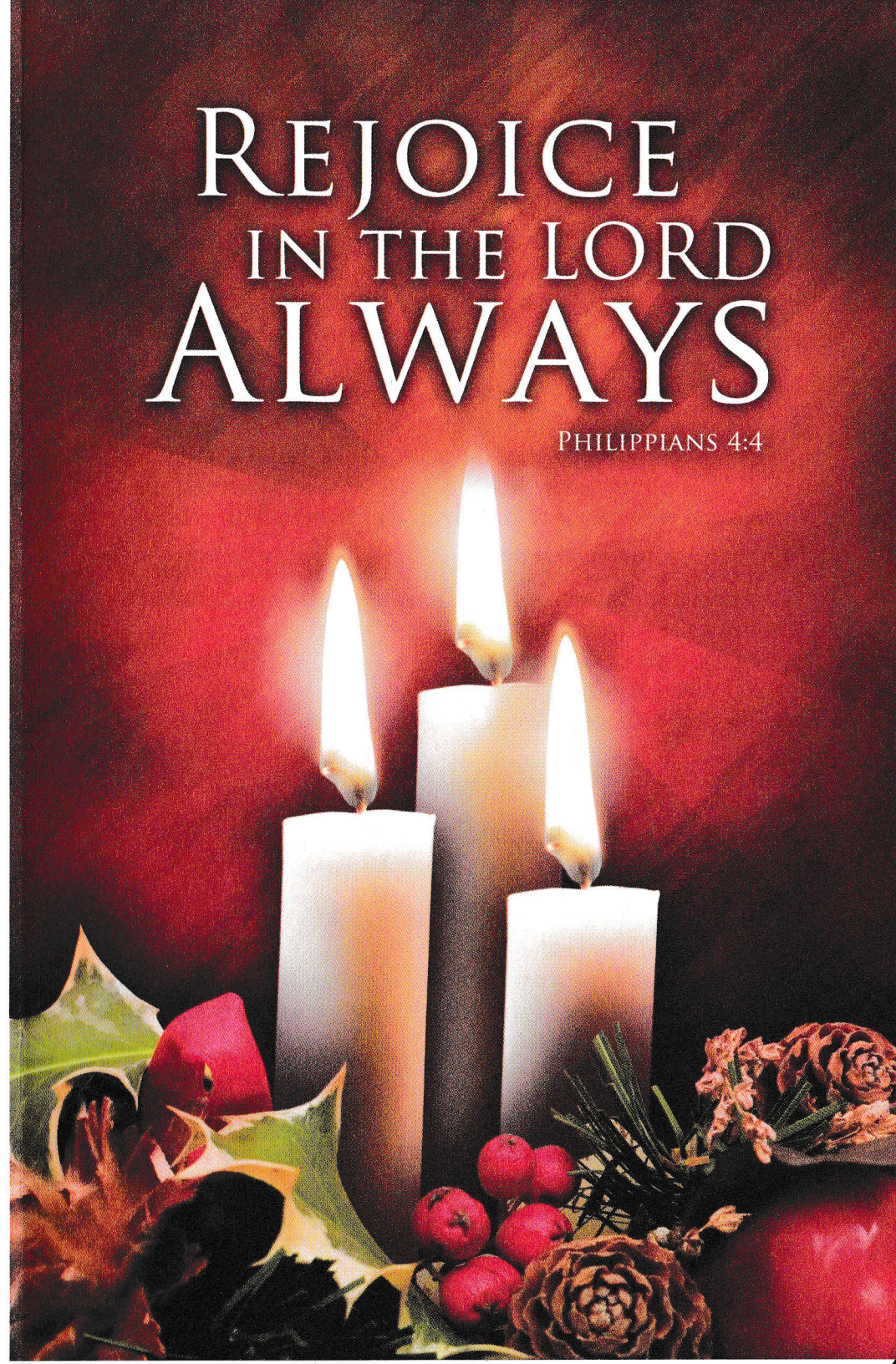
To make online tithes, gifts and offerings go to:  
[www.cosumc.com](http://www.cosumc.com) - Click on the "Donate" button. You don't need a PayPal account to donate. A receipt will be emailed to you.

Internet broadcast worship service is available at  
[www.ustream.tv/channel/christ-our-saviorumc](http://www.ustream.tv/channel/christ-our-saviorumc)



# REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS

PHILIPPIANS 4:4







5027 West Avenue M (Columbia Way)  
Quartz Hill, CA 93536  
(661) 943-2774 cosumc@gmail.com  
www.cosumc.com

Our Worship on December 13, 2015

Worship Leader: Susan Abrams



Welcome to Christ Our Savior United Methodist Church where Jesus is Lord. Today we celebrate the Third Sunday in the Season of Advent as we prepare for the coming birth of Jesus, the Redeemer of the world. May you enjoy His presence and joy! We invite you to remain after

Worship and enjoy some refreshments and friendly conversation.

#### PRAISING GOD TOGETHER

Announcements – *Please sign and pass the red friendship books.*

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Opening Devotion and Prayer

Singing Praises to Jesus

Greeting Each Other and Welcoming Our Guests

#### HEARING GOD'S WORD

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:18-25.

Pg. 669

Message by Pastor Ken Gardner: "Joseph's Heart."

#### POWER FOR MINISTRY

Offering Our Gifts to God

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.*

Closing Song: "King of Kings."

Prayer of Blessing on Everyone

#### WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

TODAY: This year's Angel Tree are for Coats, Hats, Mittens, Gloves and Scarves for the Grace Resource Center's **Warm Hearts Warm Coats Event**. Both adult and youth sizes are needed. Generous givers can place their gifts under our Angel Tree through Sunday, December 27th (taking advantage of after Christmas Sales). We will deliver them to Grace Resources the last week of December.

TUESDAY:

6:30 PM – Women's Bible Study

7:00 PM – Men's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY: 9:30 AM – *Discipleship for Busy People*

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> – Sunday morning - Christmas Praise Concert

Dec. 24 – 7:00 PM - Christmas Eve Service

Dec. 25 – Christmas Day!!!

Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> – Noon - 6:15 PM - American Red Cross Blood Drive

Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> – New Year's Day

Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 – Noon - *un-decorate* the church

Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> - North District Training Event at Northridge UMC

Feb. 18-21 – Thursday – Friday – Girl's Chrysalis Flight

Feb. 25-28 - Thursday – Friday – Boy's Chrysalis Flight

April 30<sup>th</sup> - North District Conference

#### EXTRAS:

The 2016 Directory is in the process of being updated. Please contact Susan Abrams at 661-816-1278, or email [susan.abrams2@verizon.net](mailto:susan.abrams2@verizon.net), to add or update your contact information.

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

Please contact Pastor Ken Gardner for prayer requests. Call the church office (943-2774) or email [cosumc@gmail.com](mailto:cosumc@gmail.com).

## ***“THE HEART OF CHRISTMAS” Series***

Message 2 of 5

### **“JOSEPH’S HEART: A PUZZLED HEART”**

*Why is This Happening to Me?*

Matthew 1:18-25 / December 13, 2015

*Last Week ... “Mary’s Heart”*

- *How Can This Be Happening to Me?*
- *It’s happening Mary, because of God’s amazing grace, through the Holy Spirit, Who will overshadow you.*

#### **1. SCANDAL (v.18-19)**

- Engagement, Betrothal, Marriage

#### **2. CONFIRMATION (v.20-21)**

- Joseph: A Picture of Jesus ...
  - The Law required righteousness,
  - the Relationship responded with mercy

#### **3. FULFILLMENT (v.22-23)**

**Isaiah 9:6** – *“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”*

**Isaiah 7:14** – *“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”*

**2 Peter 1:20-21** – *“Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”*

#### **4. OBEDIENCE (v.24-25)**

**Acts 4:12** – *“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”*

**Philippians 2:10** – *“That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*

**1 Timothy 2:5** – *“For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men – the testimony give in its proper time.”*

#### ***HOW CAN YOU BE READY FOR PUZZLING TIMES?***

##### **1. BE READY FOR GOD TO SPEAK**

*“**This is how** the birth of Jesus Christ came about.”  
(v.18)*

##### **2. GET “RIGHTEOUS” – GET RIGHT WITH GOD**

*“Joseph her husband was a **righteous man**” (v.19)*

##### **3. DON’T BE AFRAID**

*“... **do not be afraid** to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.” (v.20)*

##### **4. GET FAMILIAR WITH WHAT GOD IS DOING**

*“All this took place **to fulfill** what the Lord had said through the prophet” (v.22)*

##### **5. STAY IN TUNE WITH JESUS (The Holy Spirit)**

*Immanuel” —which means, “**God with us.**” (v.23)*

##### **6. DO WHAT GOD TELLS YOU**

*“When Joseph woke up, **he did** what the angel of the Lord had commanded him.” (v.24)*