3rd Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2014 ◆ 11:00 a.m. Worship

Welcome

***Passing of the Peace**

Prelude *Carol of the Advent* *Philip Dietterich*
Sanctuary Choir

Lighting the Advent Wreath (insert) *The Cullers Family*

***Opening Hymn #213** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

***Centering Prayer**

O God, to you alone we lift our souls; in you alone we place our trust; for you alone we wait all day long. For you are the God of our salvation, abounding in mercy and steadfast love. Help us to be watchful for the coming of your promised one -- the one who comes with power and glory, the one drawing near to bring our salvation, the one who comes as a servant wrapped in the clothes of humility. Amen.

Children's Message

Ministry of the Word Revelation 21:1-7 (NLT)

***Hymn of Preparation #184** *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

Sermon *"The Highway in Between"* *Rev. Bates*
Isaiah 7:10-17 (NLT)

Pastoral Prayer

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer #895

Offering & Offertory

***Doxology #94**

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

You have loved us into life, O God. When we have faltered, you have helped us start anew. When we have been without hope, you have sent us a child to love. When we have been ill, you have given us people who have showed us the way to health. Wherever we are, you are there also. In gratitude for your presence in our lives, we offer our gifts to you, O God of grace, that others might know of your glory through Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Closing Hymn #2091** (insert) *The King of Glory Comes*

***Advent Affirmation**

The Lord is holy and awesome and full of power!
He sent his Son to earth to redeem mankind.

Jesus came and lived among us, dying that we might live.
He returned to heaven, promising to return again one day.
He will come in righteousness and holiness, bringing peace to all mankind.

The Spirit of God lives with us now, moving and breathing life into our souls.
We wait expectantly for our King, our Ruler, our Savior.
He is coming.
This we believe.

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

**For those who are able, please stand*