



JOY: THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

By: Reverend Dr. Adunnola Waterman French

LEADER: As we journey in Advent, we are reminded of the joy that awaits us. We pray that as we reflect on the good news—the Savior’s birth—we may be filled with joy unspeakable and full of glory. The King is coming, and we rejoice.

RESPONSE: Lord, let your joy fill our hearts as we lift our hearts in praise.

LEADER: We rejoice knowing that there is the fullness of joy in the presence of God. Fill us with joy that cannot be contained but shared with others. Let us be messengers of peace, joyfully spreading your love wherever we go.

RESPONSE: Lord, let your joy fill our hearts as we lift our hearts in praise.

LEADER: The joy we experience is not influenced by what is happening around us because joy comes from knowing Jesus. This joy that we have is the gift of God; the world did not give it, and the world cannot take it away. *“In your presence, O God, is joy and contentment. Show me the path that leads to life.”* [Psalm 16:11]

Light two purple candles and the pink candle.

ALL: We light a candle of joy today, declaring that the joy of the Lord is our strength. We praise and thank for the hope that Christ gives us, the peace that Christ brings us, and the joy that Christ pours into our hearts. Hear our prayers, and fill our hearts with your love, now and always, Amen.