

“Big Bad John”



Third Sunday in Advent

December 12, 2021

10:00 a.m.

Mary Hurley, *Pastor*
Katie Maurer, *Director of Music Ministry*
Jenny Hammer, *Office Manager*
ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2227 West Michigan Street, Evansville, IN 47712

**SERVICE OF WORSHIP
THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

WELCOME Pastor Mary

PRELUDE Katie Maurer

RINGING OF THE BELLS

*OPENING HYMN # 98 (vs 1,4,5)
"Angels From The Realms of Glory"

*CALL TO WORSHIP Pastor Mary
Leader: Rejoice, give thanks; call on God's name; the Holy One is in our midst.
People: How good it is to come home to God's house! How good it is to gather in Christ's presence!
Leader: Sing aloud! Exult with all your heart; the Sovereign One has done glorious things.
People: We offer up our anxieties, seeking God's peace. We face our plenty, eager to share.
Leader: Shout your praise! Express your joy! The God of our salvation welcomes us.
People: God's love is renewing us in these moments; God's strength is becoming our song!

*INVOCATION (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.

*RESPONSE– Gloria Patri # 614

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

(* All who are able, please stand when noted.)

MORNING PRAYER Pastor Mary
Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And with you.
Leader: Let us pray.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

CONTEMPORARY SONG "Born That We May Have Life"

SCRIPTURE Luke 3: 1-18 (NRSV) Pastor Mary

SERMON "Big Bad John" Pastor Mary

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING Pastor Mary
Whether we face plenty or hunger, abundance or want, we are in debt to God for all we have and all we are. In these moments of thankfulness, we remember how God has blessed us. We give with joy because we trust the God of our salvation.

OFFERTORY "Immanuel" Dirck Stahl
(Card)

*RESPONSE "Doxology" # 621

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (in unison)
We rejoice, O God of peace, 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.

*CLOSING CAROL "Good Christian Friends Rejoice" # 94

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE