

North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church



804 E Street, North Wilkesboro, NC 28659

336-667-1288 ■ www.nwpres.org

Facebook: North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP • THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 12, 2021 - 11:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

WE BECOME AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Call to Worship:

Chris & Rebecca Skidmore

One: Watch and wait for Christ's coming!
We light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love,
remembering the promises of God with prayer.
We light this candle in hope.
We light this candle for peace.
We light this candle in joy.

One: Hear now this message of joy from Philippians:
"Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I will say rejoice."

**Sung: O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lowly exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel**

One: God of promise, God of joy
You are our salvation;
we trust in you and are not afraid.
Lead us to draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation.

All: God of promise, God of joy, into our darkness come.

***Hymn (#163)**

Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Steve Snipes

Prayer of Confession

One: The Lord is near.

All: In your presence, Holy God,
We confess that we need repentance.
We have broken your commands against idolatry.
We do not live in peace with your creation or your people.
We have not trusted your word, and we are afraid.
Forgive us, restore us, and turn our shame into praise,
for the sake of the One who proclaims the good news
and for the sake of all the world. (Silence)

Responsive Assurance of Pardon

One: In the name of the one God who lives among us,
we are forgiven.

Many: The Lord has taken away the judgments against us.

One: Therefore, let us not worry.

Many: Let us live in peace. Thanks be to God.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD TO US

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson **Zephaniah 3:14-20**

(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Many: Thanks be to God.)

Sharing Faith with God's Children

Special Music

Second Lesson **Luke 3:7-18**

(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Many: Thanks be to God.)

Sermon

What Then Should We Do?

Rev. R.C. Griffin

WE RESPOND TO GOD IN FAITH

***Affirmation of Faith**

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Responsive Prayer of Dedication

One: Gracious God,

We are grateful for all that you have given us.

Many: We bring before you our tithes and offerings.

One: We bring before you our commitments and our labors.

Many: Use us to help feed a world hungry for healing and hope.

One: For the sake of the gospel and in the name of Jesus Christ we pray.

All: Amen.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

***Charge and Benediction**

163 Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice



1 Wild and lone the proph-et's voice ech-oes through the des - ert still,
 2 "Bear' the fruit re - pen-tance sows: lives of jus - tice, truth, and love.
 3 With such preach-ing, stark and bold, John pro-claimed sal - va - tion near,



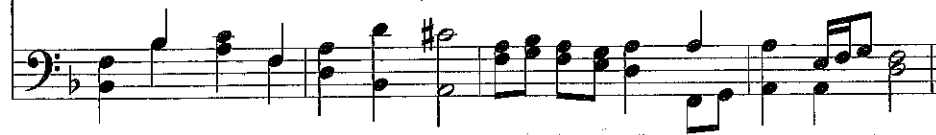
call - ing us to make a choice, bid - ding us to do God's will;
 Trust no oth - er claim than those; set your heart on things a - bove.
 and his time-less warn-ings hold words of hope to all who hear.



"Turn from sin and be bap-tized; cleanse your heart and mind and soul.
 Soon the Lord will come in power, burn-ing clean the thresh-ing floor:
 So we dare to jour-ney on, led by faith through ways-un - trod,



Quit-ting all the sins you prized, yield your life to God's con - trol.
 then will flames the chaff de - vour; wheat a - lone shall fill God's store."
 till we come at last like John to be - hold the Lamb of God.



While all four gospels identify John the Baptist with the prophecy of Isaiah 40:3, this text (well set to a vigorous Welsh tune) draws on the report of his preaching in Matthew 3:1-12. The final lines recall that he was the first to name Jesus "the Lamb of God" (John 1:29, 36).