



A place where heaven and earth meet,
where people encounter God's generosity
and healing presence.

www.thebeachchurch.com

Pastor Jim Coyl
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025

Welcome

Week 3 – The Candle of Joy

Greta Coyl

Leader:

Today we light the third candle of Advent — the Candle of Joy.
This candle, often called Gaudete, reminds us to rejoice in the Lord always.
Even in waiting, we find joy in God's faithful presence.

Reader:

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." — Luke 1:46–47

Leader:

Like Mary, we rejoice because God is doing great things among us.

People (together):

We rejoice in the good news of great joy for all people.

(Light the third candle — the pink candle.)

Prayer:

**God of joy, fill our hearts with gladness at the nearness of Christ.
Make our lives songs of praise,**

**and help us to share Your joy with those who walk in darkness.
Through Jesus Christ, the Giver of Joy. Amen.**

Hymn

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Scripture Reading Luke 1:39-55 - Mary Visits Elizabeth

Greta Coyl

39 In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country,
40 where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. 41 When Elizabeth
heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy
Spirit 42 and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the
fruit of your womb. 43 And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord
comes to me? 44 For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb
leaped for joy. 45 And blessed is she who believed that there would be[a] a fulfillment of
what was spoken to her by the Lord." 46 And Mary[b] said, "My soul magnifies the Lord,
47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, 48 for he has looked with favor on the lowly
state of his servant. Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,
49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name;
50 indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.
51 He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the imagination of
their hearts. 52 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the
lowly; 53 he has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. 54 He has
come to the aid of his child Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, 55 according to the
promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Gloria Patri

Violin - Sarah Coyl

Sermon

"A Magnifying Soul"

Rev. Jim Coyl

Pastoral Payer and the Lord's Prayer

Hymn

Joy to The World

Violin - Sarah Coyl, Paino - Angelo Monroy

Benediction

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The Joy That Comes Running

Mary runs through the hill country with more than news in her body—she carries a promise still taking shape. When Elizabeth’s child leaps, joy becomes more than a feeling; it becomes a recognition. God’s salvation is not announced with thunder, but with movement beneath the heart, with astonishment shared between two women at a doorway.

Mary’s song rises not as a polished hymn, but as a brave and trembling offering. She is young. The future is uncertain. And yet she says yes. In this moment, we glimpse a holy courage that is not loud or armored, but quiet, wondering, and willing to step into what cannot yet be explained.

My soul magnifies the Lord, she sings—not because everything is safe, but because God has chosen the lowly, the overlooked, the unprepared. The hungry will be filled. The powerful will be unsettled. Mercy is moving through the world like a great turning.

On this third Sunday of Advent, joy does not arrive as glitter or noise. It comes as awareness. As willingness. As the deep knowing that God is asking ordinary people to bear extraordinary love into the world.

So we wait with joy—not passively, but attentively. Like Mary, we stand at the edge of what we cannot yet see, trusting that even now, God is bringing something new to life within us.

This week, let us watch for the small signs of that peace, practice the refusal of despair, and dare to imagine—and embody—the world Isaiah saw. For the shoot is growing. The future of peace is already on the way.

Daily Lectionary Readings

Monday, December 15, 2025: Psalm 42; Isaiah 29:17-24; Acts 5:12-16;

Tuesday, December 16, 2025: Psalm 42; Ezekiel 47:1-12; Jude 1:17-25;

Wednesday, December 17, 2025: Psalm 42; Zechariah 8:1-17; Matthew 8:14-17, 28-34;

Thursday, December 18, 2025: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:1-17; Galatians 3:23-29;

Friday, December 19, 2025: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:18-22; Galatians 4:1-7;

Saturday, December 20, 2025: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:23-29; John 3:31-36; Events in December

Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 4:30pm

A beloved tradition of lessons, carols, candlelight, and communion as we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Come and rejoice in the light that shines in the darkness.

Living the Holy In-Between -

From Advent Waiting to Christmas Joy

These days between Advent's longing and Christmas joy are a sacred threshold—a holy in-between. As we await the coming of Christ, we practice hope, peace, joy, and love, preparing room not just in our homes, but in our hearts.

In the Kitchen — Hope

As meals are prepared and dishes are washed, offer a simple prayer for those who hunger for daily bread and for hope. Read a few verses from the prophets (Isaiah 9 or 11). Play gentle Advent or Christmas music while you cook. Practice hope by baking or sharing food with someone who may feel forgotten.

In the Living Room — Peace

Light an Advent candle in the evening. Turn off noise for a few minutes and sit in stillness. Read the Christmas story slowly (Luke 1–2). Watch something that restores rather than overwhelms—music, a nativity scene, or a quiet film. Breathe deeply and receive God's peace.

In the Dining Room — Joy

Let your table be a place of holy conversation. Ask: Where did you notice joy this year? or What are you thankful for right now? Create something together—decorate cookies, make paper stars, write blessings. Laughter itself is a form of praise.



In the Car — Love

As you travel, pray for the people you pass. Listen to carols or sacred music. Practice patience as a form of love. Let even the commute become a place of blessing.

For All of Us — Stillness, Creativity, and Service

Stillness: Spend five quiet minutes with a candle and a short prayer: “Come, Lord Jesus.”

Creativity: Draw, write, sing, bake, build—make something beautiful as a response to God’s gift.

Service: Offer a simple act of love—write a note, make a call, give generously, forgive freely.

On Christmas morning, we celebrate not only what has come, but what has been growing within us—hope taking root, peace settling in, joy rising up, love made flesh.

May we welcome Christ not only into our celebration, but into every room of our lives.