

St. John Progressive Missionary Baptist Church

December 15, 2024



Third
Sunday of Advent

Seasons Greetings!

3rd Sunday of Advent

Joy

The **Third Sunday** of Advent, we remember the **JOY** Jesus brings to us and to all people. This candle reminds us of the angel's good news of great joy told to the shepherds. This candle is traditionally pink/rose, a shift from the more solemn tone to a more joyous atmosphere of anticipation and expectation.

Rev. Dr. Bartholomew Banks, Sr., Pastor
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And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
-Luke 2:8-11

Early Morning Worship Service

8:00 a.m.

Musical Prelude.....	Musicians
Call to Worship.....	Psalm 122:1-2
<i>I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.</i>	
Praise Service.....	Praise Team
Invocation.....	Pulpit/Deacons
Responsive Reading (<i>Please Stand</i>).....	Appointee/Congregation
<i>(LUKE 3:2B-6, 15-18)</i>	
Selections.....	Choir
Sermon.....	Pastor Banks
Invitation to Discipleship.....	Pastor Banks
Worship in Giving.....	Deacons/Ushers
Offertory Scripture.....	Malachi 3:10
Acknowledgement of Visitors.....	Pastor Banks/Greeter
Announcements.....	Church Clerk/Appointee
Remarks/Benediction.....	Pastor Banks

Morning Worship Service

11:00 a.m.

Musical Prelude.....	Musicians
Call to Worship.....	Psalm 122:1-2
<i>I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.</i>	
Devotion	
Selection.....	Choir
Mission and Education Offering.....	Deacons/Ushers
Doxology.....	Choir and Congregation
Responsive Reading (<i>Please Stand</i>).....	Appointee/Congregation
<i>(LUKE 3:2B-6, 15-18)</i>	
Selections.....	Choir
Pastoral Remarks.....	Pastor Banks
Worship in Giving.....	Deacons/Ushers
Offertory Scripture.....	Malachi 3:10
Congregational Hymn #63.....	<i>"The First Noel"</i>
Sermon.....	Pastor Banks
Invitation to Discipleship.....	Pastor Banks
Intercessory Prayer.....	Pulpit
Acknowledgement of Visitors.....	Pastor Banks/Greeter
Announcements.....	Church Clerk/Appointee
Remarks/Benediction.....	Pastor Banks

RESPONSIVE READING: LUKE 3:2B-6, 15-18

LEADER:

^{2b} The word of God came unto John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness.

CONGREGATION:

³ And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins;

LEADER:

⁴ As it is written in the book of the words of Esaias the prophet, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

CONGREGATION:

⁵ Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways shall be made smooth;

LEADER:

⁶ And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

RESPONSIVE READING: LUKE 3:2B-6, 15-18

CONGREGATION:

¹⁵ And as the people were in expectation, and all men mused in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ, or not;

LEADER :

¹⁶ John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:

CONGREGATION :

¹⁷ Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable.

ALL-TOGETHER :

¹⁸ And many other things in his exhortation preached he unto the people.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today:

Sunday School Appreciation Breakfast - after 8am service

Lady Banks' Recital & Christmas Program - 4pm

- ❖ December 17th: Outing - District Congress @ Faith Temple M.B. Church, 2916 Orient Rd, Tampa - 7pm
Male Chorus will accompany Pastor

December 25th Merry Christmas!

- ❖ December 29th: Unity Service: Combined Sunday School 8am
Worship Service @ 9:30am
- ❖ December 31st: Watch Night Service @ 9:30pm



Rev. Dr. Bartholomew Banks, Sr., Pastor
& Lady Vanessa Banks

JOIN US FOR OUR WEEKLY **PRAYER CALL**

**EVERY THURSDAY
7:30 P.M.**



Before they call
I will answer;
while they
are yet speaking
I will hear.
ISAIAH 65:14



Prayer Request Line: 1-520-525-8790
No access code required



If you're interested in facilitating
or praying on one of the weekly
calls, just let us know.
Simply call the office:
@ 813.247.2345.

-3 John 2-

*Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper
and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.*



Today's Promise for You

*Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy,
and keep those things which are written therein.*

~Revelation 1:3



*M*ost people avoid the book of Revelation, with its mysterious prophecies and images of destruction. But, right off the bat, it promises happiness to anyone who will read it, hear it read, and obey what it says.

**With an offer like that, why wouldn't you study the
Revelation?**

Daily Word: Joy

My Advent Journey Leads Me To Joy

There is a stirring in the air that calls me to rejoice. The imminent birth of the Christ into humanity is an exciting time. Joy is the welcoming of unconditional love and the deep knowing it is the birthright of all the world's beings. It is the awe felt at the birth of a baby, the scent of crisp, clean air, or watching a comet flame across the night sky. These are some of the wonders that bring me joy.

I need not wait for these serendipitous happenings to awaken my joy. As I have embarked on the Advent journey, I have grown in faith, peace, and love. With joy, my Advent journey is nearing completion. This wonderful feeling of deep contentment, a full heart, and tranquil mind leads to the expectancy of the birth of the Christ within, the greatest gift I could receive.

*When they saw the star had stopped,
they were overwhelmed with joy.*

—Matthew 2:10



JOY

Now the God of hope
fill you with all JOY
and peace in believing.

ROMANS 15:13, KJV

ADVENT

A photograph of four lit red candles in glass jars, arranged on a light-colored wooden surface. The candles are surrounded by winter-themed decorations, including green foliage, pinecones, and a small red berry. The background is a dark red gradient.

A Season of Expectation