



## **Crossroads UMC Worship 12-12-2021**

### **Words of Welcome**

#### **Call to Worship**

L: A voice calls out in the wilderness.

**P: It sings of a home for all. It speaks of justice and peace.**

L: We could choose to ignore it.

**P: We could drown out that song. We could choose not to listen.**

L: Instead, we come into this space.

**P: We let the world grow quiet. We listen.**

L: A voice calls out in the wilderness. Do you hear it?

**P: We hear it. In listening, we worship.**

L: Let us draw near to God.

### **Candle Lighting for Third Sunday of Advent**

#### **Prayer of Confession** *(in unison)*

**Expansive God, We know that the church is your house, and your house has room for everyone. Yet, too often, instead of setting the table for our neighbors, we block the door. Instead of welcoming all, we judge others by our own standards. Instead of sharing our second coat, we hide it in the attic, holding on to fear instead of letting go with love. Remind us that your home is a home for all. Help us to be bold enough to see it and brave enough to live it. With hope we pray, amen.**

#### **Words of Assurance**

One Voice: Family of faith, God sent prophets like John the Baptist to us because this work is not easy. Helping create a world where all might have a home, and all might be loved, and all might know peace, is an audacious goal. Fortunately for us, when we mess up—when we lose our way or forget our call—we are met with grace. God could not love us any more or any less than God already does. So rest in this good news:

**ALL: We are at home with God—forgiven, claimed, and loved. The door is always open for us. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### **Gospel Lesson**

**Luke 3:1-18**



**Sermon  
Sermon Series**

**A Home For All  
Close To Home**  
Pastor Scott Walters

**Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

*(Prayers are adapted with permission from a prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.)*