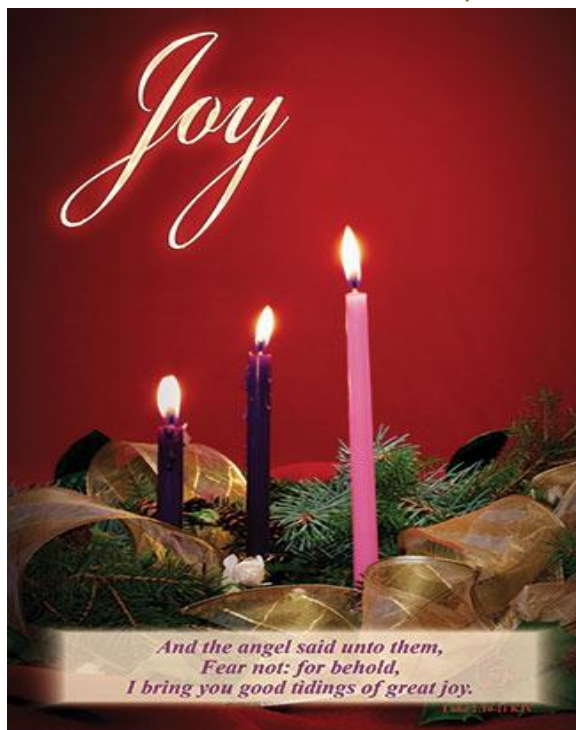


CHURCH OF THE PALMS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Where faith happens and love abounds

1960 N. Swinton Avenue Delray Beach, Florida 33444

561.276.6347 + www.churchofthepalms.net



Sunday, December 15, 2019

10:00 am

Third Sunday of Advent

Guests are a special blessing! Please sign our Guest Book, located in the back of the sanctuary where a visitor packet is waiting for you! If you would like to receive our newsletters and weekly emails, include your email address. We are blessed by your presence.



As an **Open and Affirming** congregation of the United Church of Christ, our goal is to extend to everyone an extravagant welcome in hopes that you will experience the abundant love of God here and be inspired to share that love with the world.

After worship, join us for refreshments and conversation in the Friendship Center.

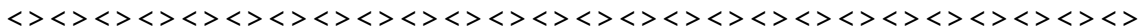
To enhance your worship experience...

- Kindly silence your cell phone in the sanctuary
- There are no assigned seats – sit where you feel most comfortable
- Back cushions are available in the back pew or ask an usher
- A hearing loop encircles the sanctuary for those with hearing aids`
- If you do not wish to keep your bulletin, please place it in the recycle box as you exit to Friendship Center
- Let us know what we can do for you!

Nursery Care is available for infants and toddlers in the education building. Ask an usher for assistance. **Sunday School** classes meet in the Education Building following the Children’s Conversation.

Prayer Requests are welcomed. Please use the *Connect Cards* in the pew rack and place it on the offering plate or call the Church Office.

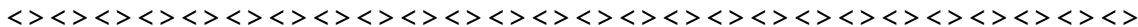
If you are interested in more information or becoming a member, please complete the information on a *Connect Card* and place it on the offering plate or contact the Church Office to speak with the Pastor.



PARTICIPATING IN THIS MORNING’S SERVICE

The Reverend Linda Harper-Smith
 Dr. Kirsten Hellman, Music Director
 Patricia Chow, Soprano-Harpist
 Lizz Sanders, Liturgist

Advent Candles, The Hammett Family



SERVICE OF THE WORD

**please stand, as you are able, in body or spirit*

Words of Welcome and the Life of the Church

Prelude *We Three Kings*

*Call to Worship

One: God has shown love among us by coming into the world in Christ, that all people might live.

All: If God has loved us, we also must love one another,

One: for if we love one another, God dwells in us.

All: Let us worship the Holy One and seek to love as we have been loved.

Lighting of the Advent Candles: ~ Hope ~ Peace ~ Joy

We light this candle for joy and we wonder.

Christ is our joy!

We light this candle for joy

and we await the coming of the Holy One of God whose reign shall never end.

***Gathering Hymn** *We Hail You God's Anointed One*

#104

Words for Children of All Ages *JOY!*

Song: God loves me, God loves me. From head to toe I know it's so, God loves me. *(Repeat as children leave for Sunday School)*

*Invocation *(in unison)*

God, we rejoice when You come to us, for You bring justice and peace, You rule with grace and truth. Now in this season we rejoice in Your coming in Jesus Christ. Come, reign among us in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Gloria *(sung by all)*

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in_ the high - est!

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, al- le- lu - ia, al- le- lu - ia!

Scripture Epistle: James 5:7 -10 (p. 204)
A New Testament Psalm: Luke 1: (39-45) 46-55 (p. 49)

Morning Message *Patience and Courage In A World Turned Upside Down*

***Hymn** *My Soul Gives Glory to My God* #119

Prayers of the Community

Pastoral Prayer and Our Savior's Prayer (*trespasses*)

Response #769 (sung by all)

**Hear our prayer, O Lord, Hear our prayer, O Lord Incline thine ear to us,
and grant us Your peace.**

Offering Invitation

Offertory *The Holly and the Ivy*

***Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all
creatures here below; Praise God for all that love has done; Creator,
Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication** (*in unison*)

**O God of Advent, may these gifts be as a living breath of Your Spirit to lighten
the shadows in this world. Pour Your holiness upon these offerings as well as
our lives which we dedicate to You. For this is our prayer in the light of Advent
and the joy of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

***Closing Hymn** *Come, O Long-Expected Jesus* #122

Benediction (please be seated)

Postlude *Ave Verum* by W.A. Mozart

About the Soloist and Instrumentalist today

Patricia Chow holds a Bachelor and Teaching Degree in Lyric Singing by ESMU / UFMG; with more than 28 years of experience in the music scene, acting as a singer, performer, instrumentalist, teacher, arranger and composer. She has been teaching Vocal Technique, Instrument Techniques (harp) and Music Theory since 2001.



Patricia formed in lyric singing and music pedagogy with emphasis on harp studies and performance, she has been acting since she was 15 years old as an artist in Brazil, where she has lived since young. Now, she is starting her artistic and teaching work in her country of origin, the USA. She has been dedicated to the study and execution of Historical Music, and has performed as a soloist singer and instrumentalist with groups with the same musical style in Belo Horizonte (MG, Brazil), as well as in other states. She participated in several operas as part of the Coral Lirico of the Palace of Arts, and sang in Coral Ars Nova with the regency of the renowned Maestro Carlos Alberto Pinto Fonseca. As a soloist of Operas and other artistic montages, she interpreted the roles of the following characters. Since 2001 she has been teaching vocal technique lessons, and during these years she has developed a unique didactic and a methodology, as a result of her research in singing as an important expression form. During such surveys and studies, she also began to understand and discover the voice as a powerful healing resource; therefore, she has also worked on music in its medicinal uses. She also likes to work with traditional music, having performed in diverse repertoire: Jazz, Blues, Samba, Bossa, MPB, ethnic-World Music, etc.

Some of her work is made her own compositions and musical arrangements. She participated as a singer and arranger of the songs in the CD recordings of "Jardim de Cerejeiras", music made for children in partnership with music artist Fernanda Sander. In April 2016, her first CD copyright Music, "Cama de Nuvem" (Cloud Bed), was launched.

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH



Office Hours this week are Tuesday - Friday, 9 AM to 1 PM. If you need pastoral care, please call the office.



Food Donations are needed for CROS Ministries. The homeless population in our area has increased and CROS **NEEDS** Food. Pantry item needed this week is Canned Soup. Please put your donations in the bins in the back of the church and in Friendship Center. To make a financial donation, go to crosministries.org.

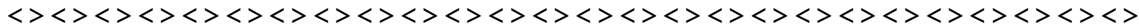


Choir Practice If you are interested in singing in our Choir, please contact Dr. Kirsten Hellman at kirsten.hellman@gmail.com.

Mark Your Calendars

The Empty Chair Service of Remembrance and Healing
Saturday, Dec. 21, 4 PM, Rev. Linda Harper Smith

Christmas Eve Service
Tuesday, Dec. 24, 7 PM, Rev. Dr. Charles Mory



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all

*No matter who you are, who you love,
or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

www.ucc.org

