

#### HYMN #213

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates Vocal Ensemble - Seth Durbin, Jenna Hesseln, Patti Mangis

- (1) Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold, the King of glory waits; the King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here!
- (2) Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.
- (3) Redeemer, come, with us abide; our hearts to thee we open wide; let us thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in us reveal.
- (4) Thy Holy Spirit lead us on until our glorious goal is won; eternal praise, eternal fame be offered, Savior, to thy name!

# CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Matthew Johnson, Associate Pastor BUMC

### PASTORAL PRAYER/ADVENT CANDLE LITANY

Pastor Wendy Witt, First UMC West Dundee

# THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 3: 7-18 Julia Hooper

<sup>7</sup> John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup> Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>9</sup> Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

<sup>10</sup> And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" <sup>11</sup> In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." <sup>12</sup> Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" <sup>13</sup> He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." <sup>14</sup> Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with[b] the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The Word of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

#### SERMON

"On the Edge"

Pastor Matthew Johnson, Associate Pastor BUMC

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

#### **CREDITS:**

Vocal Ensemble —Tom Fox, Jenna Hesseln, Patti Mangis Keyboard--Patti Mangis Organ--Michael Rees

Father, Long Your People Waited. K. Lee Scott © 1987 Morning Star Music Publishers.

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# THE MAGNIFICAT

Sunday, December 19, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. at Barrington UMC

Our choir has twenty-five singers drawn from Barrington UMC, First UMC West Dundee and guests from local communities accompanied by harpist Laura Fako Utley, organist Ricardo Ramírez, violinist Stephanie Preucil, and timpanist Brittany Edwards.

# BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Tuesday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m. at First UMC West Dundee

This is the winter solstice and the longest night of the year.

We will gather on this evening to acknowledge that the holiday season is not the happiest time of the year for many of us, but rather is a difficult time filled with pain, grief, and sadness. This is a quiet, reflective service and a time of prayer, meditation and silence. It is a time when it is okay to cry, to not be okay, and to hold space for one another's pain. As we come together, we are powerfully reminded that we are not alone.

We are never alone. God is always with us, and God has surrounded us with a community of love and care.



