

The Crowds
Respond to
John the
Baptist
Word
Search

O	N	I	N	N	S	N	S	N	A	K	E	S	Y	Q
X	Q	B	T	T	O	A	E	Z	A	N	G	R	Y	A
N	N	C	D	I	N	I	O	R	L	M	U	B	W	N
D	G	L	R	D	O	P	T	U	D	S	R	A	J	T
E	A	N	A	O	U	E	N	A	A	L	F	Z	E	R
Z	K	L	I	I	W	V	P	H	T	I	I	S	K	W
I	S	X	S	M	G	D	I	A	Y	C	T	H	A	F
T	T	M	H	J	I	S	S	M	C	B	E	R	C	F
P	C	Q	I	M	U	A	K	F	J	S	N	P	Y	Z
A	E	S	R	E	I	D	L	O	S	E	E	V	X	J
B	L	F	T	C	B	Z	G	C	D	W	L	Q	U	E
R	L	F	S	T	A	X	A	M	O	M	K	M	R	C
B	O	T	I	U	R	F	K	D	E	R	C	V	L	S
J	C	D	E	P	P	O	H	C	B	N	P	R	Z	L
P	S	S	A	R	A	H	L	H	H	N	T	J	Y	R

Crowds	Snakes	Angry	Chopped	Collect	Expectation
Baptized	Warned	Judgment	Shirts	Soldiers	Sandals
Children	Escape	Fruit	Tax	Harass	Proclaiming

<p>Ministers: The people of the Choptank United Methodist Charge Pastor: Dr. Nan Duerling</p>		
<p>204 Johnson St. Cambridge, MD 21613 www.choptankcharge.org</p>	<p>Nan@Duerling.org Home: (443) 225-6720 • Cell: (410) 271-1388 Fax: (866) 498-3849</p>	
<p><i>The Mission of Choptank United Methodist Charge is to worship, welcome, nurture, and serve in the name of Jesus.</i></p>		
<p>Spedden UMC 881 Hudson Road Cambridge, MD 21613 Worship: 8:45 am</p>	<p>Antioch UMC 1742 Town Point Road Cambridge, MD 21613 Worship: 10:00 am</p>	<p>Beckwith UMC 1328 Hudson Road Cambridge, MD 21613 Worship: 11:15 am</p>
<p>Mailing Address for All: 204 Johnson Street Cambridge, MD 21513</p>		



**Choptank
Charge**

JOURNEYING WITH JESUS THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF LUKE SEASONS OF ADVENT, CHRISTMAS, AND EPIPHANY

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TO GATHER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

With joy this day we anticipate the one who is coming, the arrival of the Messiah.

The one we call the Word! The one we call the Light.

Like John the Baptist, we are not the light. In our worship, we testify to the light.

Our testimony is prayer and praise, song and scripture.

Our testimony is preaching and teaching, learning, and serving.

May our testimony be a sweet sound in your ear, O God.

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: JOY

RELIGHT PURPLE CANDLES OF HOPE AND PEACE

READER: No matter what troubles overwhelm us...present among us.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: **Faced with the troubles and the suffering of the world, we choose to live in joyful presence to God and one another. We will not turn away from the pain and the hurt in our world, and we will not stop rejoicing in God, whose salvation fills us to overflowing that God's love might flow through us and flood our troubled world with hope, peace, and joy.**

READER: We light this candle of joy ...God's salvation together.

LIGHT THE PINK CANDLE OF JOY.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel," vs. 3 (UMH #211)

***PRAY: (After hearing requests, offer silent prayer for those on our list and in your heart.)

God of our Highest Joy, we come to you this day as your servants, gathered to worship you and you alone. As we continue this Advent journey, help us to focus on you and the coming of your son, Jesus. Amidst the commercials, the cooking, and the company, help us to remember the true meaning of this season: that you would come to us in the flesh and forever live among us. Even as we share the joy we find in you with one another, we are mindful of those for whom joy is hard to find,

for those who don't have enough clothes,

for those who don't have enough food,

for those who don't have enough (or any) shelter,

for those who don't have enough protection and justice.

We know that there really is "enough" for everyone. Help us to bear the good fruit that the Baptist called us to bear, being mindful of those around us who are without during this season of giving. We pray in the name of the Son who taught us to pray, "Our Father..."

SING A HYMN: "Joy to the World" vs. 1, 2, and 4 (UMH #246) (CCLI 20203297)

READ SCRIPTURE: Luke 3:7-18

SING A HYMN: {Church Choice}

READ OR LISTEN: The Crowds Respond to John the BaptistPastor Nan

RECITE THE APOSTLES' CREED:..... (UMH #881) Pastor Nan

******OFFERING PRAYER...PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS...DOXOLOGY (#95)**

Holy One, this Advent season we wait in joy, and we give with joy. Joy for all you have given us, joy because of your sacred promises. Receive these generous offerings, and use them to spread joy in our world. Amen.

INSTRUMENTAL OR VOCAL MUSIC

*******BENEDICTION:** (Please remain quietly in your pew until the candles are extinguished.)

Be people of joy. Let joy live in your heart and share the joy of Christ with all you meet. Share joy by seeing the good in each other. Share joy by remembering good times and hoping for good times to come. Share joy by praying for our world. In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share joy with those you meet. **Amen.**

REFLECT AT HOME ON TODAY'S SCRIPTURE:

How might John respond to your question, "What shall I do?"

OFFER YOURSELF DURING THE WEEK:

Share the joyful news of Jesus' coming with someone who needs to hear this good news.

Thanks for your continuing support. Your help is needed to keep our bills paid in full and on time.

Please mail your check to your financial secretary, OR place your gift in the plate.

Antioch: Becky Wilson 5215 Wilson Road Cambridge 21613

Beckwith: Eleanor Wheatley 9 Shawnee Road Cambridge 21613

Spedden: Mary Benjamin 779 Cook Point Road Cambridge 21613

You may wish to make a missions gift through your church to any of these organizations:

UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery— Advance 982450 (includes Ukraine)

UMCOR US Disaster Response and Recovery—Advance 901670

MidShore Meals til Monday PO Box 1193 Cambridge, MD 21613

Everstand (United Methodist Board of Child Care) 27993 Substation Road, Denton, MD 21629

To start a prayer chain, please call one of the following:

•Pastor Nan—443-225-6720—Spedden

•Susan Long:— 410-228-5586—Beckwith

Shelly Willey—410-330-0209

*<https://www.liturgylink.net/2011/12/06/call-to-worship-confession-assurance-for-advent-3/>

**<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/come-let-us-adore-him-advent-candle-lighting-liturgy-2024>

***<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/search/label/Advent%203%20C> (abridged)

****<https://spaciousfaith.com/2017/12/01/offertory-prayers-for-advent/>

****<https://www.liturgylink.net/2015/11/23/benedictions-for-advent/>