

# Celebration of Worship

## We Gather as God's People

*We welcome you on this third Sunday of Advent, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018.*

**Prelude**

**Greetings, Welcome Visitors, and Announcements**

*(Please sign and pass the red folder in your row.)*

✠ **Advent Call to Worship**

**Hymn**

*Light the Advent Candle*

v. 3, no. 2090

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

Doug and Sue Sweeder



## We Give Ourselves to God

✠ **Praise Hymn**

*Angels from the Realms of Glory*

no. 220

**We Pray Together (Unison):**

*Lord, we have come to this place from a world of demands and schedules.*

*We have sought hope and peace and have found them here.*

*Now we seek the inner joy that only Your presence can bring to our lives.*

*Open our hearts and our spirits to Your love.*

*For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.*

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Special Music**

*Away In a Manger*

Shannah Schall

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**Witness:**

**We share our joys, connections, and concerns with Christ.**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Giving of Tithes and Offerings**

*Loose change offerings go toward mission projects SPUMC supports.*

**Offertory**

*Joseph's Song*

Doug Sweeder, Soloist

✠ **Doxology**

✠ **Offertory Prayer**



## We Hear God's Word

**Anthem**

*Carol of the Little Angel*  
Zakiya Kelley, Flautist

Besig

**Message**

**Sermon Text:**

**"Focus on Forgiveness"**

**Matthew 1: 18-25 (NT p. 1)**

## We Respond with Our Lives

✠ **Hymn of Invitation**

*The First Noel*

no. 245