

Homecoming Parade

In the Hebrew Scriptures, Zion is the location of God's glorious presence, the place where God's people belong because they love their God and desire to be with their God. Zion is home for the people of God. As they say, home is where your heart is. So, where is your heart?

Sermon notes

*Prayer
Corner*

Nancy and Frank Myers

Advent Conspiracy Meet the BAKER family



With the diagnoses of cancer, the Baker family faces a significant crisis this Advent season; therefore, we will conspire to be a means of grace to their family. Each Sunday of Advent we will receive an offering on their behalf.

Let's Go Caroling

Wednesday December 21st

- 6:00 PM: Come and eat soup
- 6:45 PM: Group formation with instructions
- 7:00 PM: Start Caroling and Door hanging
- 7:45 PM Come back to the Church
- 7: 50 PM Hot Chocolate and Donuts
- 8:00-8:30 PM Leave to go home

This week → **Advent 2016 Schedule**

Advent 3 (11 December):
All Church Common Meal

Advent 4 (18 December):
Christmas Dinner Boxes Distribution

21 December: All Church Christmas Caroling at 6:00pm
Christmas Eve Service of Carols,
Candlelight, and Communion at 5:30pm
Christmas Day Worship
at 11:00am

Rev. Rob Kazee, Lead Pastor
Email: rjkazee@aol.com Cell: 202-997-1222
10:00AM - 11:30 AM Worship Service
11:30 AM - 12:30PM Sunday School
617 16th St. New Cumberland, PA 17070
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Third Sunday of Advent



Imagine Joy

New Cumberland Church of the Nazarene

Order of Worship
Third Sunday of Advent
11 December 2016

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude Music
Welcome
Call to Worship
Worship Reading

We Listen to the Scriptures

Pastoral Prayer
Offering
Scripture Readings: Isaiah 35.1-10
Sermon Series: *Imagine*
Sermon Three: *"Imagine Joy"*

We Come to the Table

Passing the Peace of Christ
Prayer of Consecration
The Lord's Prayer
We Eat and Drink Together
Prayer of Thanksgiving

We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life
Gossiping the Good Stuff
Doxology
Blessing and Sending

*If you are a guest with us today,
Please take time to fill out a Connection Card.
The ushers will be picking them up
later in the service.
Thank You*

Please visit us on our website, www.ncnazarene.org
for details of events.

Also you will find, photos, monthly newsletters,
bulletins, online giving and you can also
send prayer request to the prayer chain.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

Dec 11 Market Street Breakfast Ministry	7:24AM
Dec 11 All Church Pot- Luck	11:30AM
Dec 17 Youth Christmas Party	5:00PM
Dec 18 Christmas Dinner Boxes Distribution	11:30AM
Dec 21 All Church Caroling	6:30PM
Dec 24 Christmas Eve Service	5:30PM
Dec 25 Christmas Day Service	11:00AM
Jan 1 New Years Day Service	

Sermon Reflection Guide
Third Sunday of Advent 2016

Isaiah 35.1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.
Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;

the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Questions for Everyone

Which Winnie the Pooh character are you most like?
Do you have a star or angel on top of your tree? 1 =
Despair and despondency 10 = Unmitigated joy.
Where are you on this spectrum?

Joy

Joy is the response to very good news. Without good
news, there is no joy. Happiness can be chosen. Joy can
only be received. Agree? Why? Why not?

Hope for Spiritual Failures

God's glory is revealed among a people gobsmacked
by the ridiculous nature of God's unmerited favor be-
stowed upon spiritual failures. Joy is the only human
emotion appropriate in response to this good news.
This is exactly what Isaiah 35 is about. Isaiah 35 is an
icon of hope for spiritual failures. Have you ever been a
spiritual failure?

For Whom is this Good News?

This is good news for those whose identities are formed
by their baptism into Christ's body as children of Abra-
ham by faith in Jesus. This is good news for people who
belong to the community over which Christ is sover-
eign. This is also good news for every Christian who
has found their faith weakening, good news for every
prodigal wondering if there is still a place for them at
the table. This is good news for God's people who have
seen better days. Spiritually speaking, having you seen
better days?