

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 13th, 2020

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

arr. Gerald Near

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP*

INTROIT

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH*

HYMN OF PRAISE

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

Joy to the World, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let us our songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love

PRAYER OF CONFESSION*

O Great Author of Creation, when we see a sky full of stars and a world full of flowers, there should be no end to our joy. And yet, instead of exuding joy from the depths of our very being, we let it slip away, like loose change. Instead of singing like Mary or dancing like David, we pass by remarkable beauty and wonder and love almost every day, yet remain unfazed. Forgive us. Send us your Spirit of Joy to teach us the ways of children, who laugh and dance and sing as if joy is the very thing that keeps them alive. Gratefully we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

from Luke 1:46-50

One: God has looked upon us with favor; the Mighty One has done great things for us.

All: Holy is the name of the Lord!

One: God shows mercy to everyone, from one generation to the next, to everyone who honors the Lord as God.

All: Holy is the name of the Lord!

One: I declare to us, in the name of Christ: we are forgiven.

All Let our souls magnify the name of the Lord!

RESPONSE

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

PASSING OF THE PEACE

During this time, we invite you to pass the peace by texting a fellow church member, family member, friend, relative, or loved one, "May the peace of Christ be with you."

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

HEBREW BIBLE READING

Psalm 126

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

May the Hope of Jesus Find You

Randy Edwards

May the hope of Jesus find you;
May the peace of Christ now bind you;
May the joy of Christ surprise you;
May the love of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, bring abundant life to you;
Grant God's grace to those with whom you share life and health and toil and play.
Hope and peace and joy and love both now and evermore, Amen.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 1:46-55

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Tim Reynolds

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silences, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

TIME FOR REFLECTION

Noel Variations 1-4

Marcel Dupré

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;

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

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

HYMN OF SENDING *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* HYFRODOL

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart**

**Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone
By thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne**

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE *Toccata on Hyfrodol* *Craig Phillips*

*Adapted from a liturgy/prayer by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Tim Reynolds – Pastor

Sarah Morgan – Pastor

Charles White – Liturgist

Matthew Mimbs – Director of Music & Arts

David Stultz – Asst. Director of Music/Organist

2nd Presbyterian Chancel Choir

Technicians: Matt Casey (video), Paul Sexauer (audio)

PRAYER CONCERNS

Mary and Frances Johnson, Beth and Daniel Robertson, Kay Weaver, the Stultz family, the Bartlett family, Harriet Campbell, Frieda Sims, the Frazer family, Imogene Posey, Katie Sergent Keene, Betty McCollum, Brenda Goslee, Emily Rose, Dr. Ed Carver, Bill Gosnell, Aggie Bell, Dotty Barbour, Donna Downen, Douglas Hamilton, and Jennifer Levy-Tatum.

*Please notify the office if you are sick, in the hospital, or have a prayer request.
Names remain on the prayer list 4 weeks unless requested to keep them on longer.

WORSHIP & CELEBRATION

THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given by given by Clara Hardin to the glory of God and in memory of her grandson, William Mautz.

UPCOMING SERMON TEXTS AND TOPICS: We are currently following the Revised Common Lectionary. Our Advent theme is *Those Who Dream...* Upcoming sermon texts/topics are:

Dec 13	Luke 1:46b-55	<i>Those Who Dream...</i> sow joy (Joy)
Dec 20	Luke 1:26-38	<i>Those Who Dream...</i> are not alone (Love)
Dec 24	Luke 2:1-20	This Night, We Are... <i>Those Who Dream</i>
Dec 27	Luke 2:22-40	<i>Those Who Dream...</i> will not keep silent

THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE WILL BE HELD virtually on Zoom on Monday, December 21st at 6:00 p.m. During this Advent season that is occurring during a pandemic, we are all grieving the loss of something. Join us as we pray, read Scripture, sing, and are reminded that even though we may be alone in our homes, we are not alone. God's presence is with us and God's light shines in the darkness. If you are on our email list, you will be sent the Zoom link automatically on that Monday morning. If you are not on our email list and would like the link, please let Audrey know. (ajohnson@2ndpres.org)

OUR CHRISTMAS EVE CAROL AND CANDLELIGHT SERVICE will be held virtually at 5:30 pm on December 24th. This will be a streaming service, like on Sunday mornings. As we normally do on Christmas Eve, we will light candles and sing *Silent Night* as part of the service. For those who need them, candles are now available in the vestibule at the church. If you prefer to have candles brought to you, please contact Audrey in the church office.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY SECOND EDITION is December 20th! Please call or email Audrey with your submissions.

FELLOWSHIP & CONGREGATIONAL CARE

A PASTORAL CARE PAGE is on our website under the 'About Us' tab. For the password to access, please contact the church office.

MEALS FOR THE HOMEBOUND: If you are interested in joining a cooking team to prepare meals for some of our homebound members, please contact Leslie Matthews at flowlilly@gmail.com or 865.765.0549.

DRIVE-THRU CAROLING THIS AFTERNOON: Carolers will be on the steps between the sanctuary and chapel between 3:00 & 5:00 p.m. to carol to anyone who wants to drive through and be caroled to. If you would like to be one of the carolers, please arrive at 2:30 p.m. and meet in the courtyard.

DISCIPLESHIP

OUR WEDNESDAY NIGHT ZOOM BIBLE STUDY IS ON HIATUS through the end of the year. Details on upcoming studies will be communicated in January.

FAITH, SCIENCE AND THE FUTURE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS meets at 9:30 a.m. by conference call.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS ARE AVAILABLE. A digital version is on our website under the "Publications" tab. Hard copies are available on the table in the vestibule outside the atrium.

SERVICE & OUTREACH

DONATIONS OF STUFFED ANIMALS are being collected by the Second Readers. Donations can be dropped off in the vestibule outside the atrium Monday-Thursday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

DONATIONS OF HATS, MITTENS AND GLOVES for the Westview Elementary clothes closet may be placed on the tree in the vestibule.