

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 6th, 2020

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

arr. Paul Manz

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP*

INTROIT

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH*

HYMN OF PRAISE

Prepare the Way, O Zion

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

**Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near
Let every hill and valley a level way appear
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story
O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name**

**He brings God's rule, O Zion, he comes from heaven above
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding
O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name**

**Fling wide your gates, O Zion, your Savior's rule embrace
And tidings of salvation proclaim in every place
All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing
O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION*

Holy God, we wish that peace was something we could buy. We wish that peace could be ordered in a subscription service, found on a map, downloaded in an app, or voted for on a ballot. We wish that peace was an easy one-time choice, made when we are feeling our best, rather than an everyday decision we must make over and over, whether or not we are feeling our best. So today we confess that we need your help this Advent season to be people of peace. Send us your Spirit to prepare the way for greater peace, and to teach us how to be part of it. In Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

One: May God's guiding hand shelter us.

All: May God's comfort surround us.

One: In Christ we are forgiven.

All: Through Christ we know peace.

RESPONSE

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

**O come, Desire of Nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind
Bid envy, strife, and quarrel cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace
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 Isaiah 40:1-11

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Shalom

Dan Forrest

Kathryn Paden, soprano

Matthew Mimbs, tenor

Sean Claire, violin

Peace. Peace. Shalom.

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you:

Peace. Peace. Shalom.

Not as this world gives, I give to you,

Do not be afraid.

Shalom, Shalom, my peace I give to you.

Peace. Peace. Shalom.

GOSPEL READING Mark 1:1-8

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Tim Reynolds

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Vision Statement of 2nd Presbyterian Church

Responding in gratitude to God's love and grace, we are a welcoming, faithful, and hopeful community, following Jesus and serving him in the world.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Preparatory Hymn ***Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*** PICARDY

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand

Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand

Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand

King of Kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood

Lord of Lords in human vesture, in the body and the blood

He will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food

Great Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **They are lifted up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

HYMN OF SENDING *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry* WINCHESTER NEW

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh
Awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings!**

**We hail you as our Savior, Lord, our refuge and our great reward
O let your face upon us shine and fill the world with love divine**

**Then cleansed be every life from sin, make straight the way for God within
And let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there**

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE *Toccata on Veni Emmanuel* *Samuel Metzger*

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

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Tim Reynolds – Pastor

Sarah Morgan – Pastor

Matt Casey – Liturgist

Matthew Mimbs – Director of Music & Arts

David Stultz – Asst. Director of Music/Organist

Kathryn Paden, soprano

Sean Claire, violin

2nd Presbyterian Chancel Choir

Technicians: Dale Henley (video), Paul Sexauer (audio)

PRAYER CONCERNS

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, Frances and Mary Johnson, 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 Dean and Mary Farmer "to the glory of God and in memory of our 2nd Pres parents Anne (Dean McWhirter), Jack Farmer, and Terrell McWhirter".

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 6	Mark 1:1-8	<i>Those Who Dream...</i> prepare the way (Peace)
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>

ADVENT WREATH CANDLE LIGHTERS NEEDED: We still need people to record the Advent Wreath liturgy this year to be played while we light the candle in the sanctuary. If you, your family, your group of friends, Sunday School Class, Fellowship Group, or any other combination of folks are interested in lighting the candles on the Advent Wreath – we can do it safely and distanced – this Advent season, we will handle the liturgy and the technology! Please let Pastor Tim know of your interest.

THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE WILL BE HELD virtually on 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.

OUR CHRISTMAS EVE CAROL AND CANDLELIGHT SERVICE will be held virtually at 5:30 pm on December 24th. For those who need them, candles will be available in the vestibule at the church beginning Monday, December 14th. If you prefer to have candles brought to you, please contact Audrey in the church office.

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: On Sunday, Dec. 13th, 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.

ADVENT PRAYER PARTNERS. The Discipleship Team is offering a new spiritual growth opportunity this Advent season through becoming an Advent Prayer Partner. Since we must stay distanced, we hope that this prayer partnership will draw us closer together. To participate, visit the home page of the website or call the church office.

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-Friday between 8:00 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.