

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
December 2, 2018
11:00 A.M.

Together in Christ, Reaching Beyond Our Doors.

GATHERING TO PRAISE

PRELUDE

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GETTING ACQUAINTED

Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance Card as it is passed.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

This is God's house – a place of peace where we befriend one another in the name of Christ. Greet those around you as a sign of God's peace and Christ's friendship.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: A voice cries out:

ALL: Prepare for God's arrival!

Make the road straight and smooth, a highway fit for our God.

One: Fill in the valleys, level off the hills.

Smooth out the ruts, and clear out the rocks.

ALL: For our God is coming. Forever coming, even as God is already here!

Let us worship this God together.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

"Blessed Be the God of Israel"

No. 209

ADVENT CANDLE LITANY

Juliet Hafford and Barbara Trippe

One: We dream God's dream, of a world at peace

Where enemies are reconciled, and children play in safety;

Where the poor and powerless find justice.

We remember God's promise of a Ruler of Peace,

Filled with the Spirit of God, of wisdom and understanding,

Of counsel and might, of justice and faithfulness.

We light our first Advent candle, and we pray with all our voices:

ALL: Come Lord Jesus!

Open our lives to the Peace which you come announcing.

May we turn toward you, and get ready!

A TIME TO CELEBRATE OUR CHILDREN

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" (sung processional)

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus. In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

(sung recessional)

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus. When we have run

with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

CONNECTING WITH GOD IN PRAYER

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

No. 895

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

CHORAL ANTHEM

"And The Glory of The Lord"

Handel (from "Messiah")

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

HEARING OF THE GOSPEL

Luke 1: 67-69, 76-80

(NT p. 58)

(Zechariah's prophecy for his infant son John. Key verse: "You, child, will be called a prophet of the Most High, ... to lead us on the path of peace.")

Leader: The Word of God. **All: For the People of God.** Leader: Thanks be to God.

Calm and Bright Sermon Series Week 1:

SERMON

"While Waiting....you got Peace?"

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Come forward as directed, where you will be given a piece of bread and which you may dip in the cup (gluten-free bread is also available). Please let an usher know if you cannot come forward so the elements can be brought to you. **During this time you are invited to bring your offering forward to the plates available on the chancel.** Those in the balcony may remain seated, servers will come to you. Our Stephen Ministers will be positioned in the back of the sanctuary to offer a blessing prayer. You may stop there before or after receiving communion.*

The Great Thanksgiving (see below)

Sharing the Bread and Cup

BRINGING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

*DOXOLOGY

No. 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

GOING OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN OF EXPECTANT WAITING "Prophets Told Us, Pay Attention!" (see below)

*BLESSING

*CHORAL BENEDICTION "Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing"

*POSTLUDE

*You are invited to remain seated for the postlude as part of your worship experience.
(If you choose to exit the sanctuary during the postlude, please do so quietly. Thank you.)*

*All who are comfortable standing are invited to stand.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you:

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts:

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Our souls magnify you, O Lord, and our spirits rejoice in you, for you are our Savior. In every generation, you have shown the lowly your favor and have blessed the poor in their need. When the time had come, you looked with favor on Elizabeth and Zechariah, then Mary in her lowliness and by the power of your Holy Spirit she gave birth to your Son, the child Jesus.

With all generations, we call these lives blessed, and with them we rejoice in your saving help. Through them, through us, and through your whole Church you have done great things by your patient might. And so with all the faithful, with angels and archangels, with all your people on earth and in heaven, we proclaim the holiness of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord

God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy God, let your Spirit come upon these gifts of bread and wine and let the power of your Spirit overshadow them, that they may become holy and be, for us, the active body and life-blood of Jesus Christ, in the world.

For on the night that he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, broke it and gave it to them saying, Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you, do this in remembrance of me.

Similarly, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it to them saying, Drink from this, all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant which is poured out for you and for many for the redeeming of the nations. Do this in remembrance of me.

When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.

So with this bread and this cup we remember that your mercy endures from age to age on all who seek you. We proclaim your greatness and might and the strength of your arm, as you scatter the proud and raise the lowly. Fill us and all who hunger with good things and remember with your saving help all in need of your mercy.

For you are the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob,
of Elizabeth and Zechariah
of Mary and Joseph,
of faithful people in every age;

And we praise you now in this meal.

Amen.

HYMN OF EXPECTANT WAITING

"Prophets Told Us, 'Pay Attention!'"

(Sung to the tune: "Angels, from the Realms of Glory")

*Prophets told us, "Pay attention! God is working in the land.
Lo, the days are surely coming; seek the justice God has planned!
Seek the signs of your redemption; hear God's word and understand!"*

*Christ, you taught us: "Pay attention! Nature's signs are sure and clear:
When the trees grow leaves and blossom, summertime is almost here."
So it is in God's good kingdom; be alert; God's reign is near!*

*As we welcome your salvation, all around we see distress;
There is trouble in the nations! There is greed and wickedness;
As we trust in your redemption, may we live your righteousness.*

*May we work for what you call for; may we labor for your reign.
Families cry out at the border; children suffer grief and pain.
May your church, committed, prayerful, work for justice in your name.*

*Christ, you taught us: "Pay attention!" So we humbly serve and pray:
May we gladly live your kingdom in a world that's gone astray.
May the hope of our salvation guide the things we do and say.*