





TRADITIONAL WORSHIP December 18, 2022

PRELUDE "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" featuring The Trillium Singers

Pentatonix Mashup

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Chris Lane

PASSING THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP (from 1 Corinthians 4)

Paul and Dee Anne Sinclair

Leaders: As Christians we are both servants and managers.

Servants of what?

People: Servants of Christ, and managers of the mysteries of God.

Leaders: And what do these roles require of us?

In other words, what does it take to be Christ's servant,

and to be God's mystery-managers?

People: It requires one thing. Leaders: What is that one thing?

People: That we be found faithful, as Christ is faithful.

Leaders: As Abraham and Sarah were faithful long ago. As Mary and Joseph were faithful.

HYMN "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" UMH No. 216

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING "Light A Candle"

by Lisa Waites

The Bara Family will light the Candle of Love.

CANTICLE OF MARY
Choral Response

Paul and Dee Ann Sinclair

ONE: With all my heart I glorify the Lord!

ALL: In the depths of who I am I rejoice in God my savior. who has looked with favor on me, a simple servant.

ONE: Look! From now on, everyone will consider me blessed:

the mighty one has done great things for me.

ALL: Holy is God's name.

who shows mercy to everyone, from generation to generation.

ONE: God's arm is strong.

God has scattered those with arrogant thoughts and proud inclinations.

ALL: God has pulled the powerful down from their thrones and lifted up the lowly.

ONE: God has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty-handed.

ALL: God has come to the aid of Israel, the chosen servant,

remembering the promise of mercy,

the promise to our ancestors,

to Abraham and to Abraham's descendants forever.

Choral Response

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH 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.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

"The Shepherd's Carol"

by Dan Forrest

featuring Central's Chancel Choir

Carols so sweet, angels did sing. As lately we watched o'er our fields through the night.

A star was seen of such glorious light. All through the night, angels did sing,
Carols so sweet of the birth of a King. His throne is a manger, His court is a loft.
But hosts of bright angels, in strains sweet and soft, Him they proclaim, our Christ by name.
And earth and sky, and air straight are filled with His fame. Then shepherds be joyful,
salute your new King. Let hills and vales ring to the song that ye sing.
Blest be the hour, welcome the morn, for Christ our dear Savior on earth now is born.

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 12:1-4; Matthew 1:17-23

Paul and Dee Anne Sinclair

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God. People: Thanks be to God.

Advent Sermon Series: Prepare the Way

MESSAGE "The Way of Faithfulness" Rev. Linda Stephan

REFLECTION

GIVING OUR GIFTS Rev. Chris Lane

DOXOLOGY UMH 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!

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS Rev. Chris Lane

HYMN "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" UMH No. 206

BENEDICTION Rev. Linda Stephan

CHORAL BENEDICTION "God Be with You Till We Meet Again" by R. Vaughn Williams

POSTLUDE "Carillon on a Ukrainian Carol" by Gerald Near

featuring Tom Bara, organ

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.)

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

PASTORS: Rev. Chris Lane and Rev. Linda Stephan
LITURGISTS: Paul and Dee Anne Sinclair
MUSIC: Tom Bara, organist; Michael Coonrod, accompanist;
Central's Chancel Choir, Jeffrey Cobb, director
GREETERS: Scott, Alicia and Henry Swanson, Mike Farrell
WELCOME CENTER HOSTS: Becky Mang and Homer Nye

AUDIO/VIDEO TEAM: Tom Atkinson, Lynne Lombard, Tom Bartlett, John Sonnemann

Kim Burch, pre-production coordinator Silvio Ciccone, production director