

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020 – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US TOGETHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

**PRELUDE** *If My People* by the Power of Praise Band

**WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING**

L: Messengers in the wilderness preach for all to hear  
'Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.'" (Matthew 3)

The Lord makes our paths straight.  
With a Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
a Spirit of counsel and might  
a Spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord (Isaiah 11:2)  
The Lord judges with righteousness,  
making the way of salvation.

Now it's time to light the candles,  
Messengers prepare the way.  
Wolf and lamb lie down together;  
Righteousness marks God's new day.

**C: Light will overcome the darkness:  
Live the peace the Christ Child brings.**

***O Come, O Come Emmanuel*** (ELW #257 vs 2)

**O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
embracing all things far and nigh:  
in strength and beauty come and stay;  
teach us your will and guide our way.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: We worship this morning in the name of the Father, and the Son +, and the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

P: Lord, Some of us are running from zoom meeting, to socially distant porch celebration, to trying to adapt traditions that don't adapt well. We can hardly catch our breath. Some of us are struggling with social events and the wide range of how people are gathering. We want to be part but struggle knowing what we can and should do. We often find ourselves coping in unhealthy ways. Some of us are just plain angry or sad that this time of year is filled with such

sentimentality when we have no one to share it with. Some of us don't want to leave our homes at all for fear of what might happen.

**C: Come to us. Find us. Be with us. We ask for your blessing on this time. Fill us with your courage and your peace. Give us your peace which brings the strength to say no. Give us your peace which consoles us in our grief and weariness. Give us your peace that helps us to reach out and help someone.**

P: Let us come before God in confession.  
(*A time for personal confession and reflection.*)

P: To you, O God,

**C: To you, O God, we lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; be our joy; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loves us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C: Amen.**

#### **SHARING A SIGN OF CHRIST'S PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**C: And also with you!**

#### **GATHERING SONG     *Rejoice, Rejoice Believers* (ELW #244)**

- 1    Rejoice, rejoice, believers,  
      and let your lights appear;  
      the evening is advancing,  
      and darker night is near.  
      The bridegroom is arising  
      and soon is drawing nigh.  
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;  
      at midnight comes the cry.**
  
- 2    The watchers on the mountain  
      proclaim the bridegroom near;  
      go forth as he approaches  
      with alleluias clear.  
      The marriage feast is waiting;  
      the gates wide open stand.  
      Arise, O heirs of glory;  
      the bridegroom is at hand.**
  
- 3    The saints, who here in patience  
      their cross and suff'rings bore,  
      shall live and reign forever  
      when sorrow is no more.  
      Around the throne of glory**

the Lamb they shall behold;  
in triumph cast before him  
their diadems of gold.

4 Our hope and expectation,  
O Jesus, now appear;  
arise, O Sun so longed for,  
o'er this benighted sphere.  
With hearts and hands uplifted,  
we plead, O Lord, to see  
the day of earth's redemption  
that sets your people free!

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

#### Prayer of the Day

Loving Lord,

When we have strayed, you have called us to come home to you. "Return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing." With all our hearts we return to you, and gratefully accept your gentle love, for the sake of the one whose spirit lives in us, Jesus Christ our loving savior. Amen.

#### CHILDREN'S SERMON

##### *GOD SPEAKS TO US IN SCRIPTURE, PREACHING AND SONG*

FIRST READING Joel 2: 12-13, 28-29

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Luke 11: 9-13

*Before the Gospel is read:* C: Glory to you, O Lord.

*After the Reading:* C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – Pastor Amanda Olson de Castillo

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY *Spirit of Gentleness* (ELW #396)

##### *Refrain*

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
blow through the wilderness calling and free;  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

1 You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,  
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;

and over the eons you called to each thing:  
"Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings." *Refrain*

2 You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand,  
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;  
and when they were blinded with idols and lies,  
then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes. *Refrain*

3 You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,  
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;  
and down in the city you called once again,  
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind. *Refrain*

4 You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.  
From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;  
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.  
With bold new decisions your people arise. *Refrain*

#### **APOSTLE'S CREED**

P: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### **THE PRAYERS**

*After each petition..* P: Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.

#### **GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST**

#### **OFFERING**

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things,

**C: Through your mercy you have blessed us with our body and souls, all of our faculties and our property. Use us, and what you have given us in feeding the world with your faith and your forgiveness. We give you thanks and praise because you have blessed us with the greatest gift we can ever have, the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

#### **CLOSING HYMN**

*Go Out with Joy* (CCLI #1519037)

Go out with joy  
And be led forth in peace  
The mountains and the hills  
Shall break forth singing  
(Repeat)

And all the trees of the field  
Shall clap their hands  
The Lord Jehovah shall be praised  
And all the trees of the field  
Shall clap their hands  
The Word of the Lord  
Shall be forever

Go out with joy  
And be led forth in peace  
The mountains and the hills  
Shall break forth singing  
(Repeat)

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**SANCTUS (SPOKEN)**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**COMMUNION BLESSING**

**COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: O God, our life, our strength, our food,

**C: We give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to proclaim your promises to the world, that we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US IN MISSION TO THE WORLD**

**BLESSING**

P: The Lord Bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace. Amen.

**SENDING**

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

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