



 **WESTMINSTER**
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 5, 2021

WELCOME & OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

PRELUDE

O Day of Peace, arr. J. Chrisman¹

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE - The Sausen/Hermsen Family

Leader: As we light the candle of peace on this second Sunday in Advent, the Psalmist sings,

People: "Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

Leader: "Surely God's salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. "

People: "Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other."

PRAYER OF ADORATION

*HYMN 87

Comfort, Comfort Now My People, Genevan 42²

A brief instrumental interlude will precede each verse.

1 "Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!" So says our God. "Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow's load. To my people now proclaim that my pardon waits for them! Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over."

2 For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near, calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here. O, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way. Let the valleys rise in meeting and the hills bow down in greeting.

3 Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain. Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign. For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad, and all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Refining God, you have sent us prophets and we have not listened. We have not always determined what is best or made way for your reign in our lives, our church,

and our society. Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord (*continue with silent confession...*) **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Friends, I am confident of this: if we repent, God is sure to forgive us.
The One who began a good work in us will bring it to completion.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***ACCLAMATION HYMN** *Angels We Have Heard on High* (refrain only)³
Gloria, in Excelsis Deo! Gloria, in Excelsis Deo!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

After the message, children may join the teacher for Children's Time in room 11.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

SERMON

Live Prepared

*HYMN

Blest Be the God of Israel, Sally Garden⁴

1 Blest be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free; Who visits and redeems us, who grants us liberty. The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release; God shall fulfill that promise and bring the people peace.

2 God from the house of David a child of grace has given; A Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven. Before him goes the herald, forerunner in the way, The prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.

3 On those who sit in darkness the sun begins to rise, The dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes. God guides the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace. O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer

PRAYER RESPONSE HYMN 137

He Came Down, He Came Down⁵

He came down that we may have peace, He came down that we may have peace,
He came down that we may have peace, hallelujah for evermore.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you,

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Eternal God, holy and mighty, ... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and every place who forever sing to the glory of your name.

People: Sanctus Hymn 559 - Holy, Holy, Holy⁶

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, hosanna in the highest.

Leader: You are holy, O God of majesty, ... Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

People: **Memorial Acclamation Hymn 560** - *Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen*⁷
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Leader: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us...
We pray the prayer taught to us by our Lord Jesus Christ,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING OF BREAD AND POURING OF CUP

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION *I've Got Peace Like a River*, arr. T. Waldrop⁸

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other. We ask in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

***HYMN 106** *Prepare the Way, O Zion*, Bereden Vag For Herran⁹

1 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.

Refrain:

O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

2 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. [Refrain]

3 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. [Refrain]

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Pastorale from the Christmas Concerto, A. Corelli¹⁰

Worship Notes:

Offerings, poinsettia, and friendship forms may be placed in the plates as you exit the sanctuary. Extra forms are available on the narthex table. Pencils are available in the Narthex. Coffee fellowship after worship is in the Fellowship Hall downstairs.

1 Music Melody "Jerusalem": C. Hubert H. Parry, 1916 ©1944 GIA/Royal School of Church Music Used by Permission. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-703704.

2 Text and Music: Public Domain Interlude Setting by John Ferguson ©1987, Augsburg Fortress. Used by Permission. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-703704.

3 Text and Music: Public Domain

4 Text: Michael Perry, 1973. ©1973, The Jubilate Group (admin. Hope Publishing Company) Music: Irish Folk Melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011 Music arr: ©2011 Alfred V. Fedak
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5 Text: Cameroon song Music: Cameroon melody, transcr. And arr. John L. Bell, 1986
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6 Text: Trad. Liturgical Text Music: Per Harling, 2004, ©2004 Augsburg Fortress Used by Permission. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-703704.

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8 Music Setting by Tammy Waldrop ©2016 Lorenz Publishing Company. Used by Permission. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-703704.

9 Text: Frans Mikael Franzen, 1812; rev. 1819; trans. Augustus Nelson, 1958; adapt. Charles P. Price, 1980, alt. ©1982, Hope Publishing Company. Music: Then Svenska Psalmboken, 1697; arr. American Lutheran Hymnal, 1930 Used by Permission. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-703704.

10 Music Setting: Public Domain

Leaders Today:

Pastor: Rev. Scott Anderson

Liturgist: Cindy Kornetzke

Minister of Music: Joe Chrisman

AV/Tech: John Tarr

Ushers: Karen Osborne & Doug Kornetzke

Personnel:

Dorothy Blotz, flute and handbells

Bud Smith, Orff Instruments and handbells

Sue Dornfeld, handbells

Janet Sausen, handbells

Lee DeSpain, handbells



WPC ANNOUNCEMENTS December 5

Coffee Prep Help Still Needed!

We are fortunate to be able to have Coffee Fellowship after the worship on Sundays, but to continue, we need some help. Please consider being a coffee helper. It's easy! We have directions and will train you. You can even set up the coffee before Sunday. **The sign up is on the coat-rack table in the narthex.** We need immediate help for December and hope to put a rotating schedule out after that. Many hands make light work! If you have questions, please call Kathy Key at 608-640-0134.

Today: Adult Forum: Tiny House Villages in Madison with Allen Barkoff

Join us at 11AM in the Narthex for a special presentation. Occupy Madison, Inc. is a non-profit organization that oversees 2 Tiny House villages in Madison. The villages are a place where people without current safe housing can live and work cooperatively in a way that promotes dignity, safety, stewardship, and environmental sustainability. Allen will discuss the history of the organization, what requirements Occupy Madison had to meet for City approval, successes and the challenges the organization had to overcome, how the two Villages are financially supported, and its vision for the future. Allen Barkoff taught biology at Madison Area Technical College (Madison College) from 1969 to 2001 when he retired. He's been with Occupy Madison since 2014.

Angel Tree - A few Tags still available!

The Angel Tree is up! We will provide 60 gifts to Allied Drive families so they can have a fun and happy Christmas! If you'd like to help simply:

- Choose a tag from the tree.
- Write your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet.
- Keep gifts around \$35 total--you don't have to buy everything on the tag, just up to the \$35 amount.
- Wrap gifts and tape the Angel Tree info tag securely to the package.
- **Return gifts to church by Sunday, December 12th.**

If you do not want to shop and wrap a gift, but you do want to participate in this program, our Westminster confirmands are here to help! Just:

- Pick a tag.
- Put your \$35 donation in the basket on the table near the tree with your chosen tag, and put your name next to that child on the sign up sheet.
- The youth will take care of the rest!

Dessert and Auction, Saturday, December 11

Join us for fellowship, fun and some early Christmas shopping at the PWW Dessert and Christmas Auction, Saturday, December 11 from 1pm - 3pm in the narthex. We will be following the church's Covid protocols. If you would like to donate to the auction, please bring a new item that you have created, cooked or wish to donate to the auction. Pro-

ceeds benefit local community agencies and our Westminster PWW mission work. Thank you! For questions contact Judy Graham.

December 12: Advent Together - Intergenerational Event

Join us on December 12 following the service for our Advent Event! We'll be decorating cookies and making decorations and ornaments. Some of our cookies and decorations will be shared with the students of Pres House as they enter semester finals and some are for us! This event is a wonderful opportunity to gather together and welcome Advent with the church community.

...Speaking of Cookies...bakers needed! Cut out sugar cookies are needed for this event. Please consider donating 2 dozen plain cut-out sugar cookie. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex or email Katie in the office: info@westminstermadison.org. Please let us know if you are planning to bake some so we can plan accordingly. Thank you!

An Advent Devotional for You

Rise Up Shepherd: Advent Reflections on the Spirituals by Luke A. Powery. African American spirituals give us profound insights into the human condition and the Christian life. This is a follow up to the Lenten devotional that we used last Spring, also written by Dr. Powery. Each daily reflection includes scripture readings, a focus on one of the spirituals, and a closing prayer, and is an ideal companion through this special season. The first day of Advent is Sunday, November 28. Books are \$12 and are available today in the narthex. It is also available on Kindle and can be purchased through Amazon.

Christmas Cards for Madison Area Jail Ministry - Thank you!

Thank you to all who contributed Christmas cards for the men & women in the Dane County Jail. Chaplain Todd will personally deliver each card. It's a wonderful way to support his ministry. The collection is completed and the cards have been delivered.

2022 Dine with Nine (or Ten)

A reminder to sign up for Dine with Nine if you are interested and have not done so already. The sign-up is in the Narthex or you can send an email to Juanita at jjh71152@gmail.com. There will be a brief meeting after church on December 12 to answer any questions.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...

Care List (rotating weekly): Margie Knott, Hugh Moss, Patrick Mullin, Bucky Pike

Members & Friends: Kelly McCann, Gloria Stange, Ruth Hein, Dale Rohde, Joel Jones, Joyce Schultze, Doug Rouse

