



## LAKESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 13, 2020, 11:00 a.m.

*Online Live Streaming Service*

The Third Sunday of Advent

### GATHERING

#### PRELUDE

*Comfort, comfort ye my people*

Georg Böhm

Variation 12

Thom Miles, organ

#### WELCOME

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Once upon a time, there was a little girl who had a terrible day. She left her lunch at home. She skinned her knee on the playground, and no one wanted to sit with her on the bus. As she sank into her mother's arms at the end of the day, her mother said, "Honey, what was the best part of today?"

The little girl cried and said, "Nothing! The entire day was terrible." So the mother got down on one knee, wiped away her tears and said, "There is always some good. Sometimes we just really have to look for it."

The little girl looked up at her mom and said, "What is good about today?" And the mother said, "For starters, you're here in my arms."

Friends, anytime we gather together to worship God, we are here in God's arms. So may we recognize that gift, and in doing so, may we sow joy. Let us worship Holy God.

#### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

The Wolff Family

#### HYMN #82

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

(music for this hymn included at the end of the bulletin)

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Great Writer,

With a sky full of stars and a world full of flowers, there should be no end to my joy.

And yet, instead of decorating my very being with joy, I let it slip away like loose change.

Instead of singing like Mary, or dancing like David,

I pass by remarkable beauty and love most days, unfazed. Forgive me.

Teach me the ways of children, who laugh and dance and sing

as if joy is the very thing that keeps them alive.

Maybe they have joy figured out.  
Gratefully we pray, Amen.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE** *(based on Psalm 126)*

In Jesus Christ, the Lord has done great things for us! Even if we have gone out in tears, God brings us home shouting for joy. Thanks be to God; we are forgiven!

**PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**GLORIA**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

FRENCH CAROL

**THE WORD**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**ANTHEM**

*Song of Mary*  
Chancel Choir  
December 2016

Richard Shephard

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Creator God,

Scripture is flooded with dream-like images:

the lion lying down with the lamb,  
justice rolling like a mighty river,  
swords being beaten into plowshares,  
the prisoner being set free,  
good news to the oppressed,  
the whole world rejoicing.

To our human ears, there are times when these words can sound  
like nothing more than a far-off dream—  
downplaying prophecy to fantasy.

However, what we know is that to dream is to hope,  
and to hope is to imagine,  
and to imagine is to wonder,  
and to wonder is to believe,

and to believe is to live and breathe for your promised day.

So give us the strength to listen as we dream, O God.

For deep down, we know your words are the very thing we need. In Jesus' name.  
Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11

**PSALM READING**

Psalm 126

**GOSPEL READING**

Luke 1:46b-55

For the Word of God in scripture,  
For the Word of God among us,  
For the Word of God within us,  
**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSE

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
 MUSIC: Attr. Johann G. Naumann, 18th cent.

DRESDEN AMEN

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

### MOMENT FOR OFFERING

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

### OFFERING RESPONSE

CRANHAM

**What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him: give my heart.**

## SENDING

### CHARGE AND BLESSING

### BENEDICTION RESPONSE

IN DULCI JUBILO

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
 Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!  
 He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.  
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

## Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.