



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 6, 2020

Interim Pastor –Rev. Lindsey Carnes

Liturgist -Barbara Wesley

Candle Lighter-Mary Krist

Accompanist- Merle Lobban

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Upper Room devotionals--copies of December and previous months are available. Please contact Judy in the church office if you want one.

Angel Tree--reminder to bring your wrapped gifts to church no later than Dec 14 because the Soup Kitchen is picking up the next day.

Mitten tree--please bring in knitted or purchased hats and mittens for the elementary schools during the month of December.

Warming Center--Sarah Circle is encouraging us to help out the homeless during December and January by bringing in chapstick and individually wrapped snacks for Catholic Charities' Warming Center.

Call to Worship

Prepare the way!

Deck the halls and light the candles.

Prepare the way!

Open the doors and sing a song of hope.

Prepare the way!

Make space in our hearts for a new kind of love.

Christ is coming.

Prepare the way!

Prayer of Praise and Adoration

God of Advent Peace, you sent your messenger into the wilderness of Jordan to prepare human hearts for the coming of your Son. Help us to prepare for Christ's coming, and to hear the good news and repent, that we may be ready to welcome the Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen

Opening Hymn-PH #49 Once in Royal David's City

1 Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
manger for his bed
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little child.

3 Jesus is our childhood's pattern,
he was little, weak and helpless,
tears and smiles like us he knew
and he feels for all our sadness,
and he shares in all our gladness.

Advent Candle Lighting "Peace Can't Wait"

We watch and wait for Christ's coming!

**We light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love
remembering the promises of God with prayer.**

In hope, the prophets spoke of God's promised day
and the coming of a Messiah.

We light this candle in hope.

We light this candle for peace.

Faithful God, you are at work to restore all of creation in its intended harmony. Give us your shalom that we may be reconciled to all enemies in the peace that passes all understanding. May the desire to sow peace be kindled in us like a light in the darkness through Jesus Christ our Lord. God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come. Amen.

Advent Hymn "What Can't Wait" v. 2

Peace can't wait; she beckons brightly, softening the hardened heart.

Blessing all with brilliant beauty, fighting that which tears apart.

Violence has lost its power; now's the time for God's shalom.

Nevermore shall war devour; all the soldiers welcomed home.

Prayer of Confession

Creator God—Not a day goes by when you do not invite us to be peacemakers and advocates, listeners and good Samaritans. Not a day goes by when we are not asked to be a friend to a stranger and a neighbor to those in need. Not a day goes by when we are not asked to be the people you call us to be, and yet, day after day, we lose sight of your hope for this world. Forgive us for walking a different path, and grant us the strength to prepare a new way—Your way—here. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

As the prophet Isaiah proclaims, "The earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea." God's mercies are from everlasting to everlasting. In the name of the Resurrected Christ, I declare to you: Our sins are forgiven! **Thanks be to God!**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of the Holy Spirit prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Scripture Readings Isaiah 11:1-10

1 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of might,
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD—

3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.
He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,
or decide by what he hears with his ears;

4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy,
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the
earth.

He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

5 Righteousness will be his belt
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

6 The wolf will live with the lamb,
the leopard will lie down with the goat,

the calf and the lion and the yearling together;
and a little child will lead them.

7 The cow will feed with the bear,
their young will lie down together,
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.

8 The infant will play near the cobra's den,
and the young child will put its hand into the
viper's nest.

9 They will neither harm nor destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of
the LORD

as the waters cover the sea.

10 In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for
the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting
place will be glorious.

Matthew 3: 1-12

3 In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the
wilderness of Judea ²and saying, "Repent, for the
kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is he who was
spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

"A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
'Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.'"

⁴John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a
leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and
wild honey. ⁵People went out to him from Jerusalem
and all Judea and the whole region of the
Jordan. ⁶Confessing their sins, they were baptized by
him in the Jordan River.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and
Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to

them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee
from the coming wrath? ⁸Produce fruit in keeping with
repentance. ⁹And do not think you can say to
yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you
that out of these stones God can raise up children for
Abraham. ¹⁰The ax is already at the root of the trees,
and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be
cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance. But after
me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose
sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you
with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in
his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering
his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with
unquenchable fire."

Sermon "Peace Can't Wait. Repentance Can't Wait"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Response Hymn--PH #30 Born in the Night, Mary's Child

Born in the night,
Mary's Child,
a long way from your home;
coming in need,
Mary's Child,
born in a borrowed room.

Clear shining light,
Mary's Child,
your face lights up our way;
light of the world,
Mary's Child,

dawn on our darkened day.

Truth of our life,
Mary's Child,
you tell us God is good;
prove it is true,
Mary's Child,
go to your cross of wood.

Hope of the world,
Mary's Child,
you're coming soon to reign;
King of the earth,
Mary's Child,
walk in our streets again.

Introduction to the Offering

We thank our gracious God for the gifts the Lord has given us. We return these gifts to the Lord that we might do the work of his Son, and usher God's kingdom here and now, as we wait and hope for the coming of Christ again.

Offertory Prayer

Generous God, we thank you for bringing us to this season of faith, hope, and love. As we look at our lives, we see evidence of the countless ways that you have provided for our needs. Let gratitude well up in our hearts and overflow in generosity to others. Draw us outward to see ways that we can joyfully share what you have given. Let our acts of kindness as a church bear good fruit in the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Communion

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

God of Advent Hope...As we wait for your child to be born, hear us as we praise your majesty:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord 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.

Christ of Advent Hope.... We gather this day, God of all majesty and power, to lift up your holy name and proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Spirit of Advent Hope.... Hear us now as we pray as Jesus taught his disciples to pray, saying, 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Bearing the Word Into the World

Closing Hymn--Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me
Let There Be Peace on Earth
The peace that was meant to be

With God as our Father
Brothers all are we

Let me walk with my brother
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now.

With ev'ry step I take
Let this be my solemn vow
To take each moment and live
Each moment in peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me

Charge and Benediction

Be people of peace.

Let peace live in your heart and share the peace of Christ with all you meet.

Share peace by acting out of compassion and not fear.

Share peace by listening to all sides of the story.

Share peace by praying for our world In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share peace.

As you go out into the wonder of God's creations, share peace and hope with those you meet. Amen.

The Passing Christ's Peace

One: Having met Christ in this place, let us now share his peace:

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

All: And also with you!

OFFICERS

The Session

Class of 2020 Delphine Moore, Mary Krist, Barbara Wesley

Class of 2021 Greg Bolduc, Waldo Bronson, Denise Dixon

Class of 2022 Allison Bradley, Gayle Kettler, Ryan Wier

Moderator ~ Rev. Lindsey Carnes

Clerk of Session ~ Georgia McCall

Treasurer ~ Janet Hartzell

The Board of Deacons

Class of 2020 Funmi Adigun, Sharon Bonney, Alice Shirley

Class of 2021 Matt Burton, Kathy Henderson, Jeri Taylor

Class of 2022 Margaret Bausack, Jill Bolduc, Karen Fischer

Staff

Interim Pastor ~ Rev. Lindsey Carnes

810-445-6780 pastorlcarnes@gmail.com

if you need assistance please email or leave a voice mail at the church.

For emergencies call 810-445-6780

5151 Lennon Road, Flint, MI. 48507

www.trinityunitedpc.org

E-mail: office@trinityunitedpc.org

(810) 720-5152 office (810) 820-2433 fax