

# Order of Worship

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
9:30 am – December 4, 2022

## Participating Live?

*Text your prayer requests to 805-309-6867 before the end of the first hymn.*

### PRELUDE

*Zimbelstern—Prelude*  
Used with permission  
Lance Crane, Organ

Paul Fey

### WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Bruce Miller, liturgist

L. In this season of prophecy, promise, and preparation, we come to be renewed and refreshed.

**P. We come to be inspired by stories of a messiah who will change the world—and change us.**

L. We come to listen for words of hope and joy, promise and challenge.

**P. We come with open ears, open minds, and open hearts.**

L. Come! Let us worship our God—the One who brings all things to fulfillment.

**P. We come to receive the blessings God has in store in this season of waiting.**

### HYMN

*Heralds of Christ*

UMH 567

Words: Laura S. Copenhaver, 1915, Public Domain. Music: George W. Warren, 1894, Public Domain.

1. Heralds of Christ, who bear the King's commands, immortal tidings in your mortal hands,  
pass on and carry swift the news you bring; make straight, make straight the highway of the King.  
2.

2. Through desert ways, dark fen, and deep morass, through jungles, sluggish seas, and mountain pass,  
build now the road, and falter not, nor stay; prepare across the earth the King's highway.

3. Lord, give us faith and strength the road to build, to see the promise of the day fulfilled,  
when war shall be no more, and strife shall cease upon the highway of the Prince of Peace.

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Walsh Family

Isaiah 11: 9-10 - They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples, the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

**We are followers of that root of Jesse Isaiah spoke of. We are the ones who are now called to stand as a signal to the world, to all creation, that peace is the will of the one who created us. Peace is the knowledge of the Lord that we proclaim from sea to shining sea.**

We light these candles, the candle of joyful hope and the candle of proclaimed peace, on part to remind ourselves that we are a people rising toward God's promise. But we also light them as a sign to the world, and announcement there are some who hold on to hope and there are some who work the ways of peace. We stand as a sign that Emmanuel is still our fervent prayer. (Light two candles on the Advent wreath.)

### HYMN

*God Almighty, We are Waiting*

CCLI / Streaming: 345977 / 20105371 / CCLI Song # 7140264

God Almighty, we are waiting for a savior to appear.  
Meet us in our desert journey; give a sign that you are near:  
Burning bushes, parted waters, food aplenty in the wild.  
As we look for signs and wonders, help us see you in a child.

God Incarnate, we are waiting for the feast day of your birth.  
Looking back and looking forward to the Christ's return to earth.  
Help us to proclaim the gospel, 'til the world is reconciled.  
Let us set your holy table for each woman, man, and child.

God the Spirit, we are waiting for your presence here and now.  
Humbled by our sinful weakness, at Your mercy we will bow.  
Search our hearts and make us ready, speak in language strong and mild,  
Help each one of us, your people, to receive you like a child.

#### PASTORAL PRAYER

**CHORAL OFFERING**                      *A Voice Cries Out, "Prepare the Way of the Lord"*                      Lloyd Larson

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Soloists—Anneli, Labins, Laura Singer, Ron Harrington, Varre Cummins; Clara Johnson-Director,  
Lance Crane—accompanist                      (words on page 4)

**SCRIPTURE**                      *Isaiah 11 : 1-10 (NRSV)*                      Bruce Miller, liturgist  
*Matthew 3: 1-12 (NRSV)*

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**MESSAGE**                      Pastor Matt McPhee

**MUSICAL RESPONSE**                      *While We Are Waiting, Come* (Verse 1)  
CCLI / Streaming: 345977 / 20105371 / CCLI Song # 27525

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

**God of justice and love, thank you for pouring the yearning for justice and love into our hearts and our world. Receive these gifts we return to you now, and transform them to be instruments of justice, promises of hope, and gifts of love for a world yearning for the glory of your kingdom.**

(Mary Scifres)

**HYMN**                      *Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice*                      TFWS 2089

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1. Wild and lone the prophet's voice echoes through the desert still,  
calling us to make a choice, bidding us to do God's will:  
"Turn from sin and be baptized; cleanse your heart and mind and soul.  
Quitting all the sin you prized, yield your life to God's control.
2. "Bear the fruit repentance sows: lives of justice, truth, and love.  
Trust no other claim than those; set your heart on things above.  
Soon the Lord will come in power, burning clean the threshing floor:  
then will flames the chaff devour; wheat alone shall fill God's store."
3. With such preaching stark and bold John proclaimed salvation near,  
and his timeless warnings hold words of hope to all who hear.  
So we dare to journey on, led by faith through ways untrod,  
till we come at last like John - to behold the Lamb of God.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Christ our Lord invites to His table all who love him,  
who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.  
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(The United Methodist Publishing House, © 1989)

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

(The United Methodist Publishing House, © 1989)

## THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Let us lift up our hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

... And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth  
are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one  
who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

... As we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

... Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
**Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ that we may be  
for the world the body of Christ redeemed by His blood.**

... All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

(UM Book of Worship, The Methodist Publishing House, ©1972)

## 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 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.**

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Wachet auf, ruft uns di Stimme, BWV 645*  
Public Domain  
Lance Crane, organ

J. S. Bach

## *Prayer Requests*

**Camarillo Korean UMC—Pastor Sang Yung Lee**

**Bishop First UMC—Pastor Kate Hunter**

All those suffering from illness or loss of loved ones.

**A Voice Cries Out, "Prepare the Way of the Lord"**

A voice cries out, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.  
Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain made low."

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed; all people shall see it together.  
The mouth of the Lord has spoken it. The glory of the Lord shall be revealed!"

A voice cries out, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.  
Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain made low."

Comfort, comfort my people; proclaim the promise of the Lord:  
His name shall be called Emmanuel! The glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

A voice cries out, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.  
Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain made low."

"Prepare the way of the Lord."