

Highland Presbyterian Church
Order of Worship - December 6, 2020

PRELUDE

“Winter Song”
2nd Mile; Beth & Wayne Birch, Chris Jackson

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: John the Baptist said, “Prepare the way.” So family of faith, how do we prepare our minds for worship?

All: We silence the inner critic. We let go of busy thoughts. We make space for God to speak.

One: How do we prepare our hearts for worship?

All: We bless all emotions. We feel what we feel. We open ourselves up to be moved.

One: How do we prepare our bodies for worship?

All: We take in the scent, sight, and feel of this space. We breathe in God’s mercy.

We exhale God’s love.

One: How do we prepare our souls for worship?

All: We bring our full selves into this space. We wear our hearts on our sleeves.

We trust that even now, God is here.

One: Family of faith, what we practice in worship, we must live out in our daily lives.

All: So prepare the way. Let us worship Holy God.

OPENING PRAYER & LORD’S PRAYER

SONG

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

Highland Ringers

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Holy God, I wish that peace was something I could buy. I wish that peace could be ordered in a subscription service, found on a map, downloaded in an app or voted for in a ballot. I wish that peace was as easy as a one-time choice when I was feeling my best, however, what I have found is that peace involves everyday decisions over and over, whether or not I am feeling my best. So today I confess, in front of this community of faith, that I need your help in this Advent season.

Prepare the way for greater peace, and teach me how to be a part of it.

All: May God forgive you. May God’s guiding hand surround you.

May you know comfort. May you know peace.

One: Amen.

All: Holy God, we wish that peace was something we could buy. We wish that peace could be ordered in a subscription serve, found on a map, downloaded in an app, or voted for in a ballot. We wish that peace was as easy as a one-time choice when we are feeling our best. However, what we have found is that peace involves everyday decisions over and over, whether or not we are feeling our best. So today I confess, in front of this community of faith, that I need your help in this Advent season. Prepare the way for greater peace, and teach me how to be a part of it.

One: May God forgive you. May God's guiding hand surround you.
May you know comfort. May you know peace.
All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

BAPTISM Carl Alexander Smith and Emory Grace Smith

CHILDREN'S SERMON Jen Jammer

GOSPEL PASSAGE Mark 1:1-8

GIVING

MESSAGE Those Who Dream, week 2: "Prepare the Way (Peace)"
Rev. Chip Stapleton

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

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 to the dead. 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.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

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.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SONG "Joy to the World" Chancel Choir

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Good Christian Friends Rejoice" Cathy Wilson, organ

WIFI Password - Churchonthehill\$1