

December 12, 2021 Worship

Second Sunday of Advent

Welcome

Advent Candle lighting

Songs: *Your Name*

Call to Worship:

L: Come into God's house with a hope and a promise:

C: Despite the darkness, the light awaits us.

L: Despite what looks like the end,

C: Restoration and new life can be found here.

L: In this house we speak and listen for God's word,

C: And it accomplishes its purpose: restoration to new life.

L: Come into God's house with a hope and a promise:

C: Despite the darkness, the light awaits us.

L: We look for the one who walks among us,

C: The light that will shine...soon!

L: With hope in the one that lights our way, we worship now in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

A: Amen

Songs: *Ancient Words*

Christmas Program

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 55:1-13

Message: *Word of God*

Songs: *I Could Sing of Your Love Forever*

Affirmation of Faith (9:00)

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

Offering

You have given us all that we need for this life, God, and so much more! You provide for our needs and bless us beyond measure. May our gifts we offer here be a sign of the gratitude that overflows in us as your beloved children. Use these as a word of hope for all who turn to you for help. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Confession

L: We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

L: Healing God,

C: We come into this time of worship, both broken and lost. We bring our worries and our fears. We bring the weight of having acted out in ways that hurt others, you, and ourselves. We wonder if there will ever

be a time when light will find us. Forgive what we have done and heal us, for the sake of the one who gave everything for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. We confess these sins as well as the sins we confess in silence...

L: God offers light and healing. God invites us into a new way of being. Despite our sin, God forgives. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority alone, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all of your sins. You are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit! Receive and welcome God's forgiveness, for you are made clean and whole again. In Jesus' name we pray.

A: Amen!

Communion

The rains water the earth making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the hungry. God has provided this meal, and we gather with gratitude for all God offers. Come to the table hungry, and leave with a word on your lips: God's word of hope and love.

Song: *More Love More Power*

Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

C: 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, for

ever and ever. Amen.

Ministry Opportunities

Blessing

As we go from here, we go with this promise from God's Word:

You will go out with celebration,

and be brought back in peace.

Even the mountains and the hills

will burst into song before you;

all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

In place of the thorn, beautiful cypress trees will grow;

in place of the nettle, the myrtle will grow.

This will be a testimony to God's everlasting covenant,

an enduring reminder of God's faithfulness.

In celebration and peace, we leave this time of worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

A: Amen!

Song: *Forever*

Dismissal

L: This worship service is over. Now let the service to others begin. Let us go in peace to love and serve our Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Next Sunday: John 1:1-18

A few questions to consider throughout the week ...

- What is God's Word?
- How has God's Word shown up in your life?
- What is a covenant from God?
- How does God's word come back?