



December 20, 2020

Prelude *O Little Town of Bethlehem* arr. Mark Sedio

Sylvia Oines

Welcome

Senior Pastor, Doug Kelly

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

News From the Front Urban Impact

Lynne Faris Blessing

Light the Peace Candle throughout Seattle and the World

Dave & Debbie Campbell

We come before you, God, in response to
and in need of the peace of Christ
that sets our souls at ease
like a letter bringing news
that the ones we love are thriving

Even as we witness the wasting away
of institutions and people we hold dear
Despite the anxiety and anger all around
the competing desires, the dementia
and our "what-ifs" playing on continuous loop, we come

We come *because* your peace is beyond
our capacities to establish or even imagine without you
We come believing in a peace more profound
than an agreeable mask of suppressed hostilities
Jesus, help our unbelief

We come, Savior, for the comfort of a cozy tent
on a well-stocked trek through the wilderness
for the peace that resonates after the choir's last Hallelujah
the smell of cinnamon and fresh bread in the kitchen
children rocked to sleep in their grandparents' arms

We are God's people
We light this candle
as a sign of the peace of Christ
who comes to us as a deep breath of fresh air
and makes a home among us

O come, Immanuel

Hymn *My Soul In Stillness Waits* #89 (verses 4 & 6)

Kyla Conner

*For You, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits
Truly my hope is in You*

O Key of Knowledge, guide us in our pilgrimage
We ever seek, yet unfulfilled remain
Open to us the pathway of Your peace (*Chorus*)
Here we shall meet the Maker of the heavens
Creator of the mountains and the seas
Lord of the stars, and present to us now (*Chorus*)

Silent Listening

Worship Leader, Timothy Chang

Scripture Luke 1:46-55

⁴⁶ And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord,
⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
⁴⁸ for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Song *Amen, Amen*

Kyla Conner

Let every creature rise and bring their grateful praises to our King
Angels descend with songs again and Earth repeats a loud Amen

Amen, Amen. Amen, Amen

I found my life, I found my life in Him; Amen, Amen

Peace like a river from His throne will flow to nations yet unknown
His word a light where all hope is dim and all tribes unite to cry "Amen" (*Chorus*)

And in this Child we'll find our rest and all the meek and lowly blessed
An infant tongue could sing the hymn of Hallelujah and Amen (*Chorus*)

© 2007 Neil & Kate Robins Sojourn Community Church. CCLI #176696

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness

Timothy Chang

Children's Message

Ellie, Rachel and Jesse Shoop

Hymn *It Came Upon The Midnight Clear* #123 (verses 1 & 5)

Sylvia Oines

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old
From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all gracious King"
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing
For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old
When with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling
And the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing

Our Response to God's Great Love ([click here if you would like to give your offering online](#))

Timothy Chang

Leader: You have given all to me

People: **To you, Lord, I return it**

Leader: Everything is Yours

People: **Do with it what You will**

Leader: Give me only Your love and Your grace

People: **That is enough for me**

Introduction to Spoken Word

Executive Director of Museum Without Walls, Suzzanne Lacey

Spoken Word

Sophia Tekola

Our Prayers to God

Associate Pastor of Youth and Young Adults, Danielle Merseles

Song *In Labor All Creation Groans*

Kyla Conner

In labor all creation groans 'til fear and hatred cease

'Til human hearts come to believe in Christ alone is peace

Be our peace, be our peace, be our peace

Christ, our peace

In labor all creation groans 'til war and violence cease

'Til swords are beaten into plows and will be our peace (*Chorus*)

In labor all creation groans 'til prejudice shall cease

'Til ev'ry race and tribe and tongue in Christ will live in peace (*Chorus*)

In labor all creation groans 'til false divisions cease

'Til enemies are reconciled and Christ alone their peace (*Chorus*)

Benediction

Doug Kelly

Closing Song *Go Now in Peace*

Kyla Conner

Go now in peace, go now in peace; may the love of God surround you

Everywhere, everywhere you may go (*Repeat*)

TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Sharing the Spoken Word with us today is Sophia Tekola. Sophia was born and raised in Seattle. She is on the Associated Student Council for Seattle Central College as the Executive of Communication, and takes an active leadership role in the Black Student Union and in her community through political and social justice activism. Sophia is always up for the challenge and eagerly enters the unknown. She recently spent the summer in the Virgin Islands working with special needs children and learned more about the black Caribbean lifestyle there. As a first generation American, all cultures are significant to her.

Leading worship today is Timothy Chang. Timothy is a student teacher with the Federal Way Public Schools and has been attending Bethany for three and a half years. He lives in Tangletown, and on any given day, you might find him biking across Lake Washington on the 520 Trail, walking with a friend around Green Lake, or hitting the slopes of Crystal Mountain.

Ministers: You, who are touched by God's grace, being healed by God's love.