



## THE WORSHIP OF GOD

3rd Sunday of Advent | December 13, 2020

PRELUDE                      *Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending*                      Arr. Duane Funderburk  
Lynn Auman, violin; Chad Hammer, cello

### CALL TO WORSHIP/LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Marie Green & Gail Thomas, liturgists (*All speak words in **boldface.***)

The Holy One of hope is coming!

**How will we prepare the way?**

We will light this candle and remember:

God's hope strengthens and raises the lowly. ☩

**Come, Lord Jesus, be born in us, we pray. Amen.**

ADVENT HYMN                      *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*                      HYFRYDOL

Sue Anderson, Alberta Gisel, Wayne Tillman, Ken Curry, quartet

***Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;***

***from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.***

***Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;***

***dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.***

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1744 TUNE: Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1830 P.D.

### PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

God of the Christ child,

**holy is your name.**

You come in many forms.

In the good news

**to the oppressed, the brokenhearted, the prisoners and captives.**

You come in the times this world is turned around

and the humble **are lifted up,**

the starving **are satisfied,**

the weak **are made strong.**

You come in us—in all people—who know firsthand,  
**the saving power and restoring justice in your word.**

From generation to generation:  
you have looked on us with favor  
**even though we have failed you;**

you have called us blessed  
**despite our harmful ways;**  
you have kept your word  
**though we have let you down.**

**Forgive us, Lord. Help us return our focus to you as we wait expectantly.  
Guide our work for justice in our homes, neighborhoods, and world.**

*(Silent confession)*

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Return to the Lord your God, for God is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. Turn toward your God in the confidence that, through Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

**Alleluia! Holy is your name. Amen.**

RESPONSE OF PRAISE      *You've Given Us Yourself, Your Grace*      GOD REST YOU MERRY

***You've given us yourself, your grace, through Jesus Christ your Son;  
to help you heal this broken world, by faith, in hope, through love;  
to dream new patterns that are just and turn this world around.***

***Glory be, glory be to you we sing, God most high!***

***Glory be to you we sing, O God most high!***

TEXT: R.W. TUNE: English 18th C. P.D.

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 61:1-11

ANTHEM

*Where the Promise Shines*

Arr. Joel Raney

Sue Anderson, Alberta Gisel, Wayne Tillman, Ken Curry, quartet;  
Deb Claxton, Gail Thomas, bells

When a star is shining over eastern hills, When the air is silent, and the clamor stills,  
When the night is waiting, and the old hopes rise, Then the time has ripened and the  
heart grows wise. Lead us on, lead us on to a morning where the promise shines.

Where the world is waiting for an unknown day, where a voice, forgotten, cries,  
“Prepare the way!” Show us in a manger our redemption’s sign; bring us to a  
morning where the promise shines. Lead us on, lead us on to a morning where the  
promise shines.

Lead us on, O Daystar, in the quiet night; guide us through the shadow with your  
gentle light; when the night is waiting and the old hopes rise, then the time has  
ripened and the heart grows wise. Lead us on, lead us on to a morning where the  
promise shines.

SERMON

“Where Faith and Love Abide”

Rev. Laura Viau

SCRIPTURAL AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Magnificat, Luke 1:46-54

*(Please go to the last two pages of this worship bulletin. If you have a home copy  
of the, Glory to God: Presbyterian Hymnal, please turn to page 100. )*

Gail Thomas, Laura Viau, Wayne Tillman, Ken Curry, vocal quartet

PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,**

... Immanuel, God with us—hallowed be your name.

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

... In us, through us, and around us, your kingdom come.

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

... as we approach the day of your coming.

**And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors’.**

... Come to us, Savior of the world.

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

... give them health and peace to sing of your power.

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.**

... Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

**Amen.**

*Arise, arise—your light is come!— the Spirit’s call— obey;—  
 show forth the glo—ry of your God,— which shines— on you— today.  
 Fling wide— the prison door;—proclaim the captives’ liberty,  
 good tid—ings to the poor.—Arise,— your light— is come!  
 Arise, arise— your light is come!— All you in sor—row born,—  
 bind up the bro—ken hearted ones— and com—fort those— who mourn.  
 The moun—tains burst in song!—Rise up like ea—gles on the wing.  
 God’s power will make us strong.— Arise—your light— is come!*

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## BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

## CLOSING RESPONSE

*People, Look East*

BESANÇON

Vicki Chadwick, Lynn Auman, Wayne Tillman, Ken Curry, vocal quartet;  
 Jasmine Braxton, acolyte

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.  
 Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.  
 People, look and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

TEXT: Eleanor Farjeon, 1928, alt. MUSIC: French folk melody. Text © 1960 David Higham Associates, Ltd. Music Harm. © 1928 Oxford University Press  
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PLEASE REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL. ☺