TUSTIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WORSHIP



December 15, 2024

10:00 a.m.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The livestream for this service can be accessed from our main YouTube page: http://bit.ly/TPC-YouTube-Page The livestream will begin several minutes before the service begins. Feel free to tune in whenever you are ready. If you prefer to view the service later, the video will be available soon after the service has concluded.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

No matter where you come from or where you're going, no matter what you believe or what you doubt, no matter what you feel or just don't feel today, no matter whom you love, you are welcome into this space to be met by a God who knows you by name, who knows your heart, who knows your mind, and...who wants to have a relationship with you

When the prelude begins, please silence your cell phones and prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

PRELUDE

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Dr. Hye Kyung Lee, Organ

IN THE LIFE

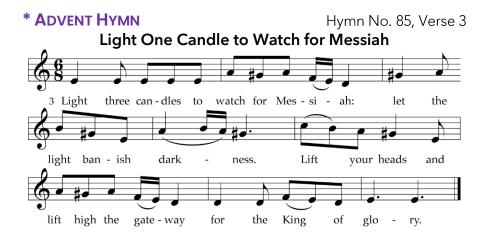


* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Steve and Emily Johnson Proclamation and Joy

⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon His shoulders; and He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and His kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Isaiah 9:6–7

We relight the Candle of Hope and Expectation, recalling God's promise to send a Savior. As we relight the Candle of Preparation and Peace, remember the voice crying out in the wilderness, "Prepare ye the way of the Lord." Now we light the Candle of Proclamation and Joy. May our hearts be forever filled with the joy of His coming.



* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loren Webb, Liturgist

Lord, we can be so shortsighted at times. We often limit our focus to our own small world and then only on the here and now. When things don't go our way, we are quick to accuse You of not caring and deserting us. If things get bad enough, we can even be tempted to declare that You don't exist, and threaten to cut of our relationship with You. Please help us in our weakness. Find ways to remind us that You are our Redeemer, who will deliver us, in the end, from the sorrow and loss that accompanies life in our sinful world. Help us, when our world seems to be crashing all around us, to see beyond our immediate circumstances, so that we may rest in Your power and grace. In the name of the One who died on our behalf, we pray. Amen.

A moment of silence follows for personal confession.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God has loved us since the beginning, and God's love for us will never end. Do not fear, therefore, but have faith in God's steadfast love, God's healing power, and God's ability to make all things new. *Amen.*

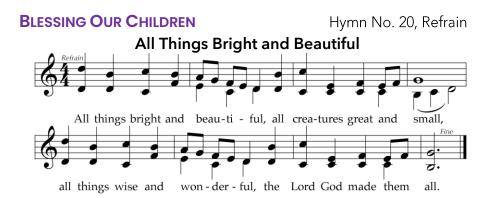


WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Lori Ruff-Schmalenberger

The children will remain seated. Following the Children's Moment, the children are invited to be escorted to Sunday School.



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Speak to us, O Lord our God, and let the fire of Your Spirit burn brightly in our hearts. Open our minds to receive the wisdom of the law, the hope of the prophets, and the life of the gospel: Jesus Christ, Your living Word. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Old Testament, Page 638

Isaiah 9:1-7

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. ²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

ANTHEM

David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Gabriel's Message

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame. "All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady; gloria." For know, a blessed mother thou shalt be; all generations laud and honor thee. Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, as seers foretold, most highly favored lady; gloria. The gentle Mary meekly bowed her head. "To me, be as it pleaseth God," she said. "My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name," most highly favored lady; gloria. Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born in Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn, and everyone throughout the world will ever say, most highly favored lady; gloria.

text by S. Baring-Gould

SECOND LESSON

New Testament, Page 59

Luke 2:25-38

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.

³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

Pastor Steve

Simeon and Anna

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

Choral Call to Prayer

Prayers of the People

We thank You for the patience You show us...
We pray that You will teach us how to wait on You during this Advent season...
We ask that You speak clearly to us during this time of preparation...
We pray for every kind of healing for all of us...
We pray for those who feel lost...
We pray for those who need strength through difficult times...
We offer thanks for providing us with the privilege of giving...
We offer our hearts for You to change...
We offer ourselves to be Your hands, feet and voices...

Lord's Prayer (Traditional)

Glory to God, Page 35

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Randall Thompson (1899-1984)

Alleluia

TPC Chancel Choir

* OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Hymn No. 708, Verses 1, 2



* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Blessed are You, God of all creation; through Your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for Your glory, and for the service of Your kingdom. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME



* BENEDICTION AND BENEDICTION RESPONSE

During the postlude, please feel free to depart, or to remain and enjoy the music.

POSTLUDE

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Dr. Hye Kyung Lee, Organ