



Community Presbyterian Church

Third Sunday of Advent
11 December 2022

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Ukrainian Bell Carol

*Call to Worship

(One) This is the season of holy waiting.

(All) We wait for the One who will return for us.

(One) We watch for the day when God's name will be made known among the nations.

(All) We wait in the shadows for the Light of the World to appear once again.

(One) Come let us walk in the light of God!

Opening Prayer

Third Candle of Advent: Joy

(One) Watch and wait for Christ's coming!

(All) We light candles of hope, peace, and joy, remembering God's promises in prayer.

Lighting of the Hope, Peace, and Joy Candles

(One) God of Joy, out of despair you plant seeds of joy. Cultivate those seeds in us, so that we may be reminded of the dawning of Christ's advent among us. May you delight in our joy this season.

(All) God of hope, God of peace, God of joy—into our darkness come. May your Spirit comfort us today as we wait.

*Hymn (154)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

(1) O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!

(4) O come, O Branch of Jesse's stem,
unto your own and rescue them!
From depths of hell your people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave. *Refrain*

(5) O come, O Key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home.
Make safe for us the heavenward road
and bar the way to death's abode. *Refrain*

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 146:5-10

(One) Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever, who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry.

(All) The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

(One) The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

(All) The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!

*Hymn (191)

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

(1) 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.

(2) Still through the cloven skies they come,
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

(3) 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 all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

Prayer of Confession

(All) Lord God, we praise you for sending light into this world. We confess that we live as though the light had never defeated darkness. We confess that we ignore the Savior you sent to be among us and to live in us. We've kept the birth of your Son confined to a season. Forgive us for not opening our eyes to Jesus. Prepare us for His return. Help us rejoice in the light so that your grace can illuminate the darkened places of our hearts. Assure us of our pardon that we may find rest in you. Amen.

Silence

Response

Hear Our Prayer O'Lord

*Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord;
incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. Amen.*

Assurance of Pardon

PROCLAMATION

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

New Testament Reading

James 5:7-10

Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:2-11

Sermon

*Hymn (173)

Magnificat (My Soul Magnifies the Lord)

*Magnificat, magnificat, magnificat anima mea Dominum
Magnificat, magnificat, magnificat anima mea*

RESPONSE

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. **I believe** in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence 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 life everlasting. Amen.

Offertory

It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

*Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

Passing of the Peace

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (sins/trespases)

*Hymn (161)

People Look East

(1) People, look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the guest, is on the way.

(2) Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.

People, look east and sing today:
Love, the rose, is on the way.

(3) Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
Guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the bird, is on the way.

SENDING

Charge

Benediction

Postlude

Ding Dong Merrily on High

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Intergenerational Study of the Bible for Youth

Our intergenerational study of the Bible will be exploring the creation and fall narratives found in Genesis **tonight Sunday, December 11th from 4:00pm to 5:30pm**. All are welcome (especially those between the ages of 10 to 18 years old).

Games Up Here

Join us for "**Games up here**" on **Monday, December 12th** at the Presbyterian Annex at 7:00pm.

AICM Mission Trip Informational Meeting

Are you interested in participating in the AICM mission trip to Show Low, AZ with Grace Fellowship? **Join us Tuesday night, December 13th at 7:30pm at the Annex.**

December Session

This **Wednesday, December 14th**, the CPC elders will meet in Darley Hall at 10:00am for our December Session.

Wednesday Bible Study

Join us this **Wednesday, December 14th at 5:00pm** online and in Darley Hall as we explore the Apocryphal book the *Wisdom of Solomon*.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Join the men of Lake City this **Thursday, December 15th at 7:00am** for good food, prayer, and Bible study.

Pastor: Rev. Jason Brian Santos, Ph.D. (206) 962-9886

Organist/Pianist: Celeste Scott

Community Presbyterian Church

429 Gunnison Avenue (184)

Lake City, CO 81235

SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 35:1-10

35:1 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus

35:2 it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

35:3 Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

35:4 Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

35:5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

35:6 then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

35:7 the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

35:8 A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

35:9 No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.

35:10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

James 5:7-10

5:7 Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains.

5:8 You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.

5:9 Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors!

5:10 As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Luke 1:46b-55

1:46b "My soul magnifies the Lord,

1:47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

1:48 for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

1:49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

1:50 His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

1:51 He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

1:52 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

1:53 he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

1:54 He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,

1:55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."