



First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020

Trinity Presbyterian Church

Topeka, KS

GATHERING

We gather as the Body of Christ to Encounter God in worship.

Prelude

Meditation on "O Little Town of Bethlehem"
C.Callahan / Brad Stipcak, Organ

CENTERING WORDS

*As the year winds down, and we find ourselves waiting for the birth of the Messiah,
what are your hopes and fears for the months ahead?*

Welcome and Announcements

Ross Freeman

Lighting of the Candle of Hope

Opening Words

Prayer of the Day

Unison

We are waiting, O God. We are waiting to hear your word. We are waiting to sense your presence. Open our hearts, that we may be renewed by your grace and transformed by your love. Amen.

Musical Interlude

Here I Am to Worship
T. Hughes / Jaron Marcus, Piano

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Congregation

Emmanuel, God with us, in this Advent season, we confess how difficult it is to slow down. We don't want to wait patiently for anything, and instead

we buy into the busyness of the season, leading many of us to feel a lack of joy and a lack of hope. When we look at the world around us, it's hard to feel hopeful about the world, about our nation, about ourselves. We are surrounded by death, destruction, and pain, and we long for a day when your promised kingdom comes to make all things new. Give us hope that this day is indeed coming, and help us to rest in this because your promises are always true. Amen. (time for silent prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD

The Word of God in scripture and interpreted in proclamation is the center of worship.

Prayer of Illumination

First Lesson

Isaiah 11: 1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.
On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations
shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Thanks be to God

Special Music

Still, My Soul, Be Still
Getty & Townend / Carol Thomas, Soloist
Jaron Marcus, Piano

Second Lesson

Mark 13: 24-37

'But in those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory.
Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from
the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts
forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things
taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this
generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and
earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.
'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the
Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time
will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his
slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the
watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the
house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or
else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say
to all: Keep awake.'

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

"Advent Hopes and Fears"
Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

We respond to the Word of God in prayer and by offering ourselves and our Substance.

Prayers of the People

Responsive Singing

Refrain: "The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee, O Christ."

Tune of "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

"Lo How a Rose is Growing"

arr. Michael Burkhardt / Brad Stipcak, Organ

***Prayer of Dedication and Lord's Prayer**

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.

SENDING FORTH

Worship Equips Us To Go Forth To Serve God In The World.

Sending Music

Once in Royal David's City

arr. C. Berry / Jaron Marcus, Piano

***Charge and Blessing**

***Postlude**

Postlude on O Come, O Come Emmanuel

A.C. Lovelace / Rad Stipcak, Organ

~Please rise in body or in spirit.

Participating in Worship Leadership:

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan, Presider

Ross Freeman, Liturgist

Brad Stipcak, Director of Music/Organist

Jaron Marcus, Piano

Carol Thomas, Vocal Soloist

Anton Ahrens, Audio/Visual Tech

Peter Sandquist, Audio/Visual Editing Tech.

Words to hymns reprinted with permission under Onelicense.net # A-715286

CCLI Songs-#1205798; CCLI Streaming- #20738157

New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicized Edition, copyright © 1989, 1995

National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission.

Scifres, Mary; Beu, B. J. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2020. Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.