



Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2020
Trinity Presbyterian Church,
Topeka, KS

GATHERING

We gather as the Body of Christ to encounter God in worship

Prelude

“Away in a Manger”
arr. Frank Voltz
Erin Wood, Harp

CENTERING WORDS

Have you ever risked ridicule for standing up for justice?

Welcome and Announcements

Marvin Burris

Lighting of the Candle of Peace

Marvin and Susan Burris

Prayer of the Day

Unison

Almighty God,
you have made us and all things to serve you.
Now prepare the world for your rule.
Come quickly to save us,
so that wars and violence shall end,
and your children may live in peace,
honoring one another with justice and love;
through Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Musical Interlude

"Pastel on Maiden Mother, Meek and Mild"
Charles Callahan
Brad Stipcak, Organ

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Congregation

Faithful God, we know that you are always there to guide us, yet we often make plans without listening to you and discover that our human agendas can drown out our ability to hear your will for us. We repent of these faults and turn to you in love. Forgive our offenses and pardon our sins, that our lives may magnify your holy name forever. Amen.

(time for silent prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

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

Luke 1: 26-45

When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a city in Galilee, to a virgin who was engaged to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David's house. The virgin's name was Mary. When the angel came to her, he said, "Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with you!" She was confused by these words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. The angel said, "Don't be afraid, Mary. God is honoring you. Look! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and he will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. He will rule over Jacob's house forever, and there will be no end to his kingdom."

Then Mary said to the angel, "How will this happen since I haven't had sexual relations with a man?"

The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come over you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the one who is to be born will be holy. He will be called God's Son. Look, even in her old age, your relative Elizabeth has

conceived a son. This woman who was labeled ‘unable to conceive’ is now six months pregnant. Nothing is impossible for God.”

Then Mary said, “I am the Lord’s servant. Let it be with me just as you have said.” Then the angel left her.

Mary got up and hurried to a city in the Judean highlands. She entered Zechariah’s home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. With a loud voice she blurted out, “God has blessed you above all women, and he has blessed the child you carry. Why do I have this honor, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as I heard your greeting, the baby in my womb jumped for joy. Happy is she who believed that the Lord would fulfill the promises he made to her.”

Thanks be to God

Special Music

“Clair de Noël (A Christmas Fantasy)”
arr. David Ice
Erin Wood, Harp

Second Lesson

Luke 1: 46-55

Mary said,

“With all my heart I glorify the Lord!

In the depths of who I am I rejoice in God my savior.

He has looked with favor on the low status of his servant.

Look! From now on, everyone will consider me highly favored because the mighty one has done great things for me. Holy is his name.

He shows mercy to everyone, from one generation to the next,
who honors him as God.

He has shown strength with his arm.

He has scattered those with arrogant thoughts and proud inclinations.

He has pulled the powerful down from their thrones and lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty-handed.

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, remembering his mercy, just as he promised to our ancestors, to Abraham and to Abraham’s descendants forever.”

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

“The Fear of Being Ridiculed”
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

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

“Coventry Carol”
arr. Susann McDonald/Linda Wood
Erin Wood, Harp

*Prayer of Dedication and Lord’s Prayer

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.*

Congregational Hymn

Good Christians Friends, Rejoice!

1 Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say:  
Jesus Christ is born today;  
ox and ass before him bow,  
and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today!  
Christ is born today!

2 Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye hear of endless bliss:  
Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven’s door,  
and we are blest forevermore.  
Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!

3 Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;

now ye need not fear the grave:  
Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all  
to gain the everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save!  
Christ was born to save!

\*Charge and Blessing

\*Postlude

*“Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light”*  
*arr. Cindy Berry*  
*Jaron Marcus, Piano*

Participating in Worship Leadership:  
Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan, Presider  
Marvin Burris, Liturgist  
Brad Stipcak, Director of Music, Organ  
Jaron Marcus, Piano  
Erin Wood, Harp  
Anton Ahrens, Audio/Visual

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