

# Service for the Lord's Day

Second Sunday in Advent

December 4, 2016

May the Lord speak to us in whispers of hope.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

*We wait for the day when the wolf and the lamb will lie down together in peace.  
May we seek that which is noble, see hope where it is veiled, and desire only God's good.*

## Gathering

PRELUDE "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star" Pachelbel

WELCOME Claudia Morgan-Gray

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Now let us pray together:

*Eternal and near at hand, already and not yet, God's promise is the foundation of all life. We wait for the coming of the Holy Child. Amen.*

\*INTROIT #401 "Here in This Place" (v.1) Haugen, 1979

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus Christ, the One who was, and is, and is to come, welcomes you to this sacred place.

*As one body, with one voice, we honor and glorify the giver of wisdom, counsel, knowledge, and joy.*

Jesus says, "I am coming soon."

*Amen, Come quickly, Lord!*

A voice cries out in the wilderness:

*Prepare the way of the Lord! Prepare! And let us worship God.*

\*HYMN #93 "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" Winkworth, 1863

CALL TO CONFESSION

All too often, we believe others need to be cleansed and forgiven, but not us. But let us be honest with God. Let us seek to live as if we truly believe that the kingdom is coming near. Let us confess our sins together first silently, then together using the words in the bulletin.

SILENT PRAYER (A time of silence for personal prayer)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Precious God Incarnate, we confess that we have not lived as your children. We muddy the clear waters of baptism with our sin and depravity. We wait for our desires to be taken care of, while you hope we would fill the lives of others with your good news of hope. Forgive us, joyous King, and help us to be as willing to draw near to others, so we might heal their brokenness, touch their loneliness, embrace their grief, and love them as you did when you came to us so long ago. We pray in the name of the Holy Child. Amen.*

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

*"Lord, have mercy upon us,  
Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us."*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The reign of God has come near. In the name of the Christ Child, we are forgiven.  
*Thanks be to God, we are filled once again with hope. We believe in the power of the risen Christ to bring us to new life. Amen.*

\*GLORIA PATRI *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.* #580

## Proclaiming

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE Isaiah 11:1-10 Bibles, p.602/LG. p.784  
The Word of the Lord *Thanks be to God*

HYMN #163 "Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice" Daw, 1985

SECOND SCRIPTURE Matthew 3:1-12 Bibles, p.2/ LG. p.3  
The Word of God, for the People of God *Thanks be to God*

SERMON "Making Preparations" Rev. Candice L. Klein

## Responding

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

How many part are there to the true repentance or conversion of people?

*"Two: the dying of the old self and the birth of the new."*

What is the dying of the old self?

***Sincere sorrow over our sins and more and more to hate them and to flee from them.***

What is the birth of the new self?

***“Complete joy in God through Christ and a strong desire to live according to the will of God in all good works.” This, we believe. Amen.***

– *The Heidelberg Catechism* 4.088 – 4.090

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

MINISTRY OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ***“To Bethlehem We Go”*** Walcha

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

*Those who are able may come down the center aisle to be served. If you prefer, please remain seated and the elements will be brought to you. The outer ring of the communion tray contains white grape juice and the inner rings contain wine.*

## *Sending*

\*HYMN #384 ***“Soon and Very Soon”*** (v.1-3) Crouch, 1976

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*RESPONSE #384 ***“Soon and Very Soon”*** (v.4)

POSTLUDE ***“O Lord, Rend the Heavens Clear”*** Walcha

(\*) Those who are able may stand.

***Bold italic letters*** indicate congregational responses.

**This week’s prayers and concerns:** the family of Jack Clark, Robbie Brooks, Syble & Tom DeLoach, Debbie Murphy, Cindy Ratliff, Sue Williams and Dr. David Craig.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat. 12/10	Presbytery Meeting
Sun. 12/11	Commitment Sunday
Mon. 12/12	Presbyterian Women’s Christmas Luncheon

Pastor: Rev. Candice L. Klein 903-392-8443 [fpchendersonrev@aol.com](mailto:fpchendersonrev@aol.com)  
Church Secretary: Lisa Temple Director of Music: Mark Reeves, CAGO  
Custodian: Bob Schauwecker Nursery Attendant: Martha Baughman