

# Service for the Lord's Day

Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2017

And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

*Lord God, Anoint us with your Spirit to proclaim your Word so that all may repent and believe in you. Amen.*

## Gathering

PRELUDE

*“Canticle of the Turning”  
“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”*

Rory Cooney  
Charles Wesley

WELCOME

Jan Pennal

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

Bill Stanley

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Sound, Lighting, Recording

*Let us pray together: Saving God, look upon your world and heal your land and your people. Prepare us to be changed. This Advent, teach us to be tender and just, as you are. Amen.*

\*INTROIT #87

*“Comfort, Comfort Now My People” (v.1)*

Olearius, 1671

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

A voice cries in the wilderness,

*“Prepare the way of the Lord; make God’s way clear. Lift up every valley; lower every mountain. For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.”*

\*HYMN #87

*“Comfort, Comfort Now My People” (v.2&3)*

CALL TO CONFESSION

God does not want anyone to perish, but rather for all to come to repentance. Therefore, let us confess our sins, for God’s salvation is at hand. Let us pray, first silently, then with the Unison prayer.

SILENT PRAYER

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Faithful God, we confess that we have not led lives of holiness. We suffer from impatience, apathy, and greed; we have not been at peace. We repent of these offenses and turn to you in love. Forgive our iniquity and pardon our sins, that we may walk in righteousness to the*

*glory of your name. Amen.*

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

*“Lord, have mercy upon us,  
Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us.”*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Brothers and sisters, by the mercy of Christ, your sins are forgiven, for salvation is at hand for all who turn to God.

*Thanks be to God. 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

ANTHEM

*“Hark, A Thrilling Voice is Sounding”  
(Chancel Choir)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 40:1-11

Bibles, p.627/LG. p.816

The Word of the Lord

*Thanks be to God*

HYMN #163

*“Wild and Lone the Prophet’s Voice”*

Daw Jr., 1985

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Mark 1:1-8

Bibles, p.32/LG. p.42

The Word of God, for the People of God

*Thanks be to God*

SERMON

*“Preparing the Way for What?”*

Rev. Jim Hawthorne

## Responding

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*God expressed his love for all mankind through Israel, whom he chose to be his covenant people to serve him in love and faithfulness. When Israel was unfaithful, he disciplined the nation with his judgments and maintained his cause through prophets, priests, teachers, and true believers. These witnesses called all Israelites to a destiny in which they would serve God faithfully and become a light to the nations. The same witnesses proclaimed the coming of a new age, and a true servant of God in whom God’s purpose for Israel and for mankind would be realized. Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus. He was the fulfillment of God’s*

*promise to Israel, the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity. He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world. This, we believe.*

– *The Confession of 1967 (9.18-9.19)*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MINISTRY OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY                      *“In the Bleak Midwinter”*                      arr. by Allen

\*DOXOLOGY

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

DEDICATION OF PLEDGES                      Rev. Jim Hawthorne

## *Sending*

\*HYMN #129                      *“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”*                      Baker, 1894

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*RESPONSE #95                      *“Prepare the Way of the Lord”*                      Community, 1984

POSTLUDE                      *“People, Look East”*

(\* ) Those who are able may stand.

*Bold italic letters* indicate congregational responses.

**Reverend Jim Hawthorne is an honorably retired teaching elder, currently working for Grace Presbytery as a consultant to the Committee on Ministry. During his tenure in pastoral ministry, he served congregations in Nebraska, Kansas, and Texas. He and his wife Sally live in Denison. They have five children and five grandchildren. Jim is the Com liaison to Henderson First. In this capacity, he is consulting with the Pastor Nominating Committee to expedite the pastoral search process.**

**This week’s prayers and concerns:** Debbie Castro, Syble DeLoach, Jack Gray, Joyce Huggins, Dorothy Maloney, Billie Manck, Jan Mims, Cindy and Bob Ratliff, Bob Schauwecker, Patsy Snelgrove, Billy Tapley, and Sue Williams.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tues. 12/12	Blood Drive For Bob & Lavonne	10:00am – 4:00pm
Sun. 12/17	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	