

Service for the Lord's Day

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020

— Gathering —

PRELUDE Joshua Allen

WELCOME Jimmy Chapman, CP

OPENING SENTENCES & CANDLE LIGHTING

Tom & Kelly Weaver

Jesus says: I am coming soon.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. As the Lord has promised, in days to come . . .

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, The leopard shall lie down with the kid,

The calf and the lion and the fatling will lie down together,

and a little child shall lead them.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord. Amen.

MUSIC Joshua Allen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Liturgist, Kathy Porter

Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin together:

"Prepare the way of the Lord," your prophet says to us. Forgive us when we have failed to prepare your way. Forgive us when we have stood in your way, instead: when we let the challenging words of your prophets roll off of lives, rather than let them spark change; when we walk around a neighbor in need, rather than encounter a chance for compassion. Forgive us, O Lord, and grant us assurance that the glory of your coming does not depend upon the righteousness of your followers. Forgive us, O Lord, and free us to try again.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jimmy Chapman, CP

Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low. Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

- Word -

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Kathy Porter

Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

SCRIPTURE Jimmy Chapman, CP

Our first reading is from the prophet Isaiah chapter 40, verses 1 through 11.

A voice is crying in the wilderness: Listen to the word of the Lord.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Our gospel reading is from the gospel according to Mark chapter 1 verses 1 through 8. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. Listen to the word of the Lord.

Heaven and earth will pass away but the word of the Lord stands forever.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Good News!"

Jimmy Chapman, CP

ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

Now to the God of all wisdom, who strengthens us according to the gospel, through Jesus Christ be all glory forever. *Amen.*

— Response —

MUSIC Joshua Allen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Kathy Porter

Watching and waiting for the coming of Christ, we pray for the promise of a new creation, saying: Come quickly, Lord; **our hope is in you.**

With expectation, we pray for the church \dots May we hear the word your messengers speak, so that we can change our hearts and actions and live holy and faithful lives.

Come quickly, Lord; our hope is in you.

With expectation, we pray for the world . . . Speak peace to your people so that we might become your peace. Don't let us return to foolish ways.

Come quickly, Lord; our hope is in you.

With expectation, we pray for this community . . . May your steadfast love and truth meet in this place and righteousness and peace embrace in our streets, so that all in our community will flourish. Come quickly, Lord; **our hope is in you.**

With expectation, we pray for loved ones . . . As you know the needs and hopes of each person, bring comfort to all who are mourning or anxious. Let us hear the compassionate words you speak. Come quickly, Lord; **our hope is in you.**

God our hope, as the promised day approaches, fill us with the joy of your Holy Spirit and strengthen us to serve you faithfully; through Christ, who is coming to reign. *Amen.*

LORD'S PRAYER - UNISON

Kathy Porter

Our Father who art in heaven.....

MUSIC Joshua Allen

COMMUNION NOTE

Jimmy Chapman, CP

Reminder: Communion will be VIRTUAL via Facebook Live streaming at 5:30 on Thursday

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Thank you for your continued cooperation as we work to keep our sanctuary a covid- free environment. Your consistent generosity of time, talent and treasure in these extraordinary days is a testament to your character.

All things in heaven and earth belong to God, who is coming in glory to reveal a new creation. Therefore, let us offer our lives to the Lord.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Kathy Porter

God Most High, receive the gifts of our lives as an offering of gratitude for your grace. Overshadow us with your Holy Spirit and let it be with us according to your word, for nothing is impossible with you. *Amen.*

— Sending —

BLESSING AND CHARGE

Jimmy Chapman, CP

May the God of peace make you holy and the power of the Spirit sustain you until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Alleluia!*

Prepare the way of the Lord! Amen.

MUSIC Joshua Allen



Henderson, Texas

Rev. Michele R. Goff........Pastor

Joshua Allen.....Music Director

Stefen Kane.....Admin Assist.

Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences

