

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE
MUSIC FOR COMMUNION I Wonder as I Wander Stefen Kane, soloist

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
*God our hope, we give you thanks that you have given us this foretaste
of the justice, righteousness, and peace of your promised new creation.
Strengthen us with this heavenly food as we seek to serve your holy realm.
Lead us to live in joyful expectation of the coming again in glory
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

— Sending —

*HYMN #129 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

*BLESSING AND CHARGE - MICHELE
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.**

*Congregational Response O Holy Night (refrain)
*Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise God's holy name.
Christ is the Lord! O praise his name forever!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!*

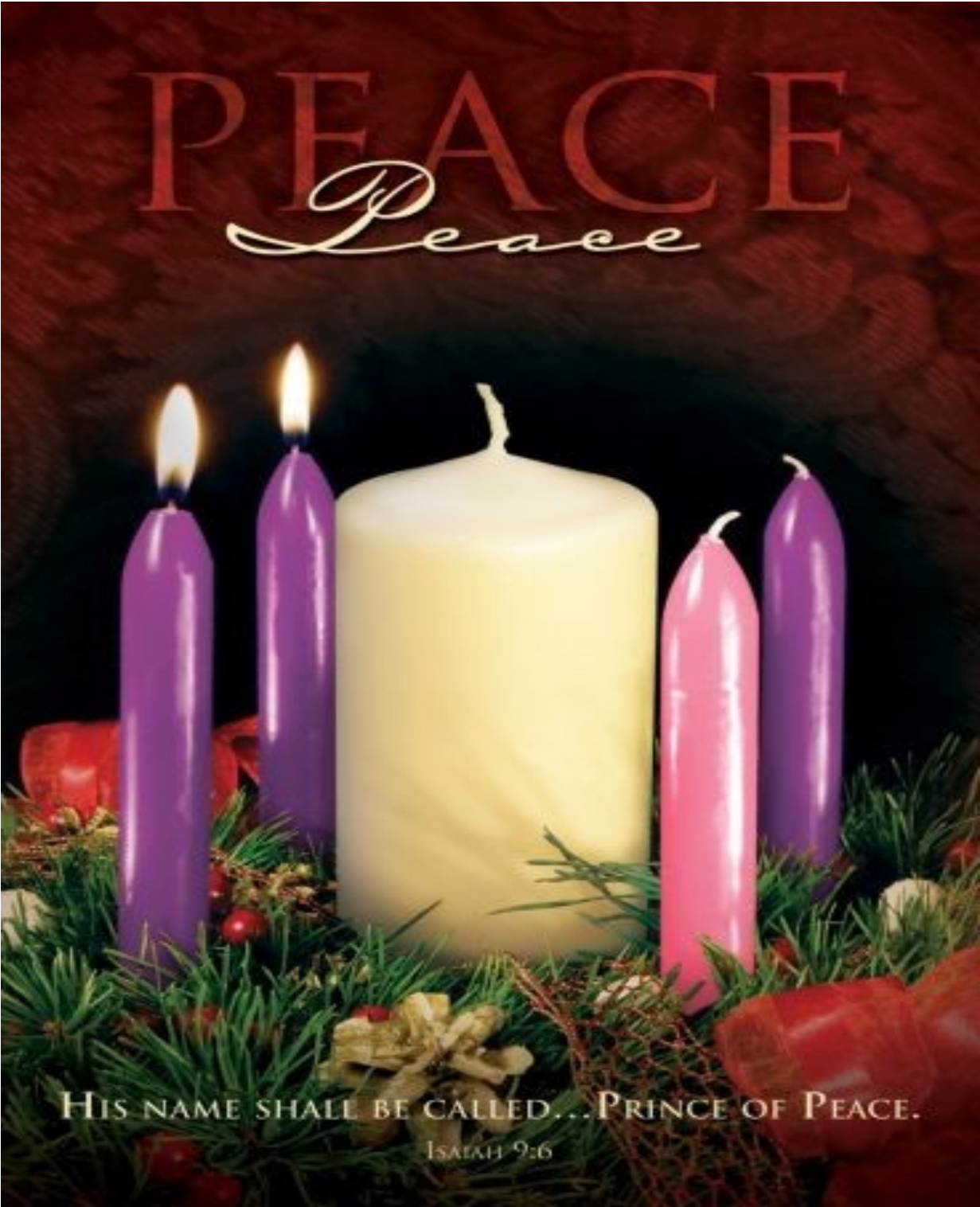
Postlude "Every Valley" from Messiah (Handel) Joshua Allen
You may sit after the light passes you in the aisle.



Rev. Michele R. Goff.....Pastor
Joshua Allen.....Music Director
Debbi Ricci.....Admin. Assist.



*Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences*



(* Please rise in body or in spirit
Bold Italic Letters indicate congregational response

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HENDERSON, TX**

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2022

— *Gathering* —
Greensleeves

PRELUDE

WELCOME

***CANDLE LIGHTING**

As we light our second Advent candle,
we pray for the holy peace of God.
Come now, O Child of Mary.
Come now, O Prince of Peace.

***CANDLE LIGHTING Hymn #314** Christ, Be Our Light (Chorus)
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

***OPENING SENTENCES**
God's vision of peace is a realm where all live together in harmony:
enemies become friends, fear gives way to understanding.
God calls us to be this community;
let us gather together to worship.

***HYMN #88** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (v. 1, 4, 6, 7)

CONFESSION
God of all creation, your vision of peace is beyond our knowing.
We have been hurt and we have seen destruction,
so we turn around and hurt others, destroying what you have called good.
Forgive us, and fill us with your knowledge,
so we may help bring forth your peaceful kin-dom.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
Christ comes into our world— Christ comes into our lives—
to purify us and give us another chance. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
We rejoice in the hope Christ offers us! Thanks be to God!

***GLORIA #113 (Chorus)**
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Copyrights: All music used is under OneLicense.net #A-736032 & CCLI License #A-1844922

— *Word* —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
FIRST TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 11:1-10 Bible p. 602-603, LG p. 784
A voice is crying in the wilderness: Listen to the word of the Lord.
SECOND TESTAMENT READING Romans 15:4-13 Bible p. 153, LG p. 199
Hear the word of the Lord.
Heaven and earth will pass away but the word of the Lord stands forever. *Thanks be to God.*
GOSPEL Matthew 3:1-12 Bible p. 2-3, LG p. 3
Hear God's wisdom for us.
The wisdom of God for the people of God. *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON The Purpose of Preparing Rev. Michele Goff
ASCRPTION OF PRAISE

— *Response* —
***HYMN #96** On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry
(see insert)

— *Eucharist* —
INVITATION TO OFFERING
OFFERTORY Of the Parent's Love Begotten (Divinum Mysterium)
***DOXOLOGY # 607**
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**
Eternal God, as we wait for the fulfillment of your reign,
use these gifts and the gifts of our lives to bring justice to those who are oppressed,
to set free those who are in prison, to lift up those who are bowed down,
and to uphold those who are vulnerable. Amen.

***INVITATION TO THE TABLE**
***GREAT THANKSGIVING**
The Holy One be with you *And also with you*
Open your hearts to the One who is Love *We open our hearts to you, O God*
Let us give thanks to God with us
To the One who took on flesh, we give thanks and praise.
With saints, with angels, and with the whole creation, we join the ancient and eternal
hymn:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest.
remembering Christ's dying and rising, and praying: Come, Lord Jesus!
Dying you destroyed our death; rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.