

**ADVENT THEME: A NEW WORLD** 

**December 20, 2020** 

**Fourth Sunday of Advent** 

**Prelude** 

Magnificat

Morgan Bennett, violin

Handel

# **Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Dr. Scott Jones

# \*Greeting and Passing of the Peace

"The Peace of God be with you."

In Unison: Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

\* Let us rise in body or spirit.

Introit

What Child Is This?

# **Call to Advent**

Kendra DelaCadena & Jon Kousgaard, liturgists

Come to this place of rest and renewal.

We sing of God's steadfast love for all people.

We proclaim God's faithfulness to all generations.

God looks with favor on the humble and lowly.

God strengthens those who are weak.

lifts up the poor, satisfies the hungry, and gives voice to the silent.

Blessed are those who walk in God's light.

Let the heavens proclaim the wonders of God.

Let all the earth rejoice in Christ's coming.

Come, let us worship in Love.

\*Processional Hymn

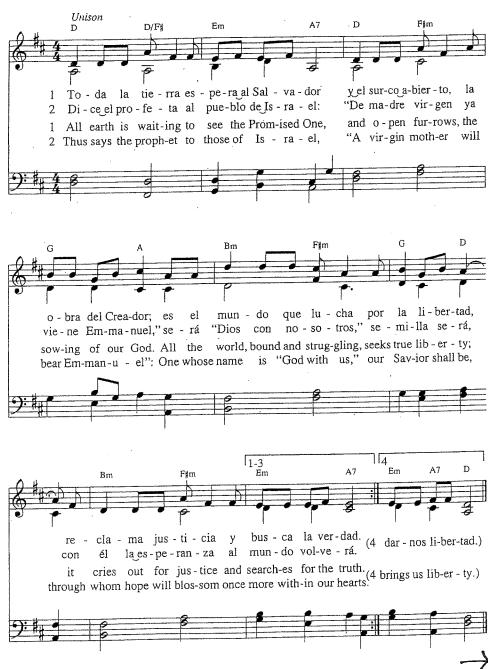
All Earth Is Waiting

3-95 ADVENT 16-95 121 4-95

Isa. 40:3-5; Luke 3:4-6; Matt. 1:23

# Toda la Tierra (All Earth Is Waiting)

Alberto Taulé, 1972; alt. Transl. Gertrude C. Suppe, 1987; alt.



Words and music Copyright 1972 The Pastoral Musicians. English translation Copyright 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House. Harmonization Copyright 1988 Skinner Chavez-Melo.

- 3 Mon-tes y va-lles
  ha-brá que pre-pa-rar;
  nue-vos ca-mi-nos
  te-ne-mos que tra-zar.
  Dios es-tá ya muy cer-ca,
  ve-nid-lo a en-con-trar,
  y to-das las puer-tas
  a-brid de par en par.
- 4 En un pe-se-bre
  Je-sús a-pa-re-ció,
  pe-ro en el mun-do
  es-tá pre-sen-te hoy.
  Vi-ve en-tre la gen-te,
  con e-llas es-tá;
  y vuel-ve de nue-vo
  a dar-nos li-ber-tad.

- 3 Moun-tains and val-leys will have to be made plain; o-pen new high-ways, new high-ways for our God, Who is now com-ing closer, so come all and see, and o-pen the door-ways as wide as wide can be.
- 4 In low-ly sta-ble
  the Prom-ised One ap-peared,
  yet feel that pres-ence
  through-out the earth to-day.
  For Christ lives in all Chris-tians
  and is with us now;
  a-gain, on ar-riv-ing
  Christ brings us lib-er-ty.

#### \*Invocation

O Wondrous God, speak to us today with a word of grace. If we are fearful, move us to confidence. If we are weary, offer us rest. If we are empty, fill us with hope. Be present with us at home, urging us to join your work of Love. We pray in the name of the One who is coming, Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

#### \*Gloria

Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

#### Conversation with the Children

#### **Lighting of the Advent Candle**

Discord and systemic injustices have led to violence in our nation. Yet we are inspired by an uprising for justice, the people in the streets demanding change. We must build a new world in Love. So, we light this fourth candle. And with its light, we welcome all to join together in a beloved community. We make room for strangers and friends. We commit to do the difficult work. **God be with us, in this Light of Love.** 

#### Scripture Lesson

Luke 1:46-55

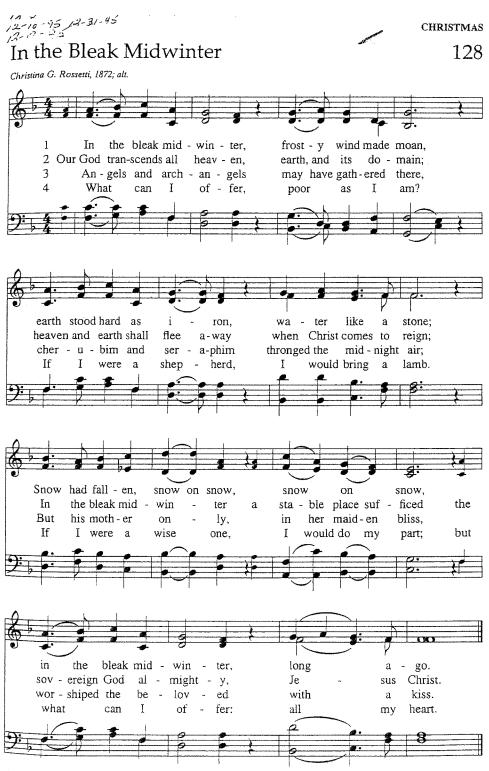
For the Word of God in scripture, For the Word of God among us, For the Word of God within us, Thanks be to God. Sermon

Oh, Yeah, Mary TOTALLY Knew

Rev. Katie Miller

\*Hymn

In the Bleak Midwinter



Christina Rossetti has portrayed the Christmas story, not in warm Bethlehem, but in the winter of her native England.

Tune: CRANHAM irr. Gustav Holst, 1906

# \*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dr. Jim Harmon

Do not fear, the angel said. We know fear from the inside out. This year we have all been confronted with life-changing circumstances and decisions where what was wise to do was often unclear. We ask for your mercy for what we've done wrong. Restore us. And be with us, giving us courage and prudence.

#### \*Words of Assurance

Our Wondrous God is with us now, offering grace that is more than we can ask or imagine. God's love frees us from the past and helps us to move forward into a new future. Thank you, Emmanuel, for faithful love.

#### **Prayers**

Pastoral 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.

# Offertory

Mary at the Manger

# \*Hymn of Dedication

VENI EMMANUEL

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here below. Praise Holy Spirit evermore. Praise Triune God whom we adore. Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

# \*Offertory Prayer

Faithful One, accept us. We give ourselves to you. Magnify us as the living presence of Christ in the world. Amen.

#### \*Recessional Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem

#### CHRISTMAS

#### 133

#### O Little Town of Bethlehem



Inspired by a visit to Bethlehem. Phillips Brooks, minister of Holy Trinity Church, Philadelphia, wrote this hymn for the Tune: ST. LOUIS 8.6.8.6.7.6.8.6.

Lewis H. Redner, 1868



Though perhaps of earlier origins, this anonymous English carol first appeared in print in the nineteenth century. "Nowell" stems from the Latin novellae (news) and is used as a joyous greeting to celebrate Jesus' birth.

Tune: THE FIRST NOWELL Irr. with refrain Traditional English melody Harm. Christmas Carols New and Old. 1871 Descant, Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937

#### \*Benediction

Let us go forth without fear, creating in our lives a space for the One who longs to dwell with us, to share our lives, and bless our world, and lead us into the reign of Justice and Peace.

# **Benediction Response**

Oh Come to Us, Abide with us, Our Lord, Emmanuel

#### **Postlude**

Gloria In Excelsis

#### **Open & Affirming Statement**

In our ongoing quest for hearts that open, minds that understand, and lives that serve, we welcome into our fellowship, membership, leadership, and employment, all people, regardless of abilities, race, gender, sexual orientation, or any God-given characteristic.

# Announcements December 20, 2020

Prayers: Nikki Zimmerman, recently hospitalized; the family of *Yuri Skrypnik*, who died last week.

Happy Birthday this week: to Mark Jensen, Bud Cassiday, Mary Gryva, Hadley Rudd, Erin Bock, Leigh Gustafson, Katie Sharp, Susan Dolezal, Blake Ladwig, and Emily Milton.

Thank You: to Morgan Bennett, for sharing her musical gifts with us this morning.

**Christmas Fund**: special offering. Please mail checks to the church; indicate" Christmas Fund" in the memo line. Thank you for your generosity.

**Siena/Francis House**: Congregational Outreach Ministry is collecting NEW **hats**, NEW **mittens/gloves** and GENTLY USED **coats** through December. Men's items are especially needed. Drop off boxes are in the glass entry – please call before you come.

FirstYouth: 8 p.m., Zoom.

### Activities for the Coming Week, December 21 - December 26

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

Monday:

Staff meeting, 1:30 p.m., Zoom

Blue Christmas, 8 p.m., YouTube and FaceBook Live

Thursday:

Christmas Eve service, 8 p.m., YouTube.

Friday:

Christmas Day. Office closed.

# Sunday, December 27

Worship: 10:30 a.m. on YouTube. Lessons and Carols.

FirstYouth: 8 p.m., Zoom

Want to donate electronically? Please scan the QR code.

