

Trinity Presbyterian Church

www.trinitypresbyfairfield.org

First Sunday of Christmas

December 27, 2020

WELCOME

THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

PRELUDE

Sleep, My Dove; Alsatian Carol arr. Larry Shackley

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Here on the heels of Christmas,

All: We speak of love.

One: We speak of joy.

All: We speak of candle light and fireside.

One: We speak of dreams being fulfilled.

All: We speak of “glorias” and angel choruses.

One: We speak the words, “Do not be afraid.”

All: Here on the heels of Christmas, We are called to speak, for the world needs a light.

One: A light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it.

All: Let us worship and listen. Then, let us speak. Amen.

OPENING HYMN # 136

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain: Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
 Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

Refrain

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior’s birth.

Refrain

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn,

Refrain

CALL TO CONFESSION

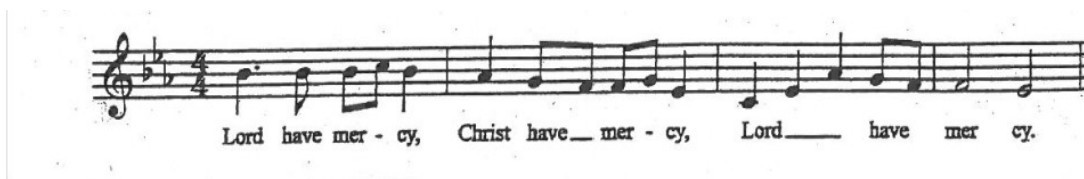
We invite God to examine our hearts, knowing we will not be put to shame. Come, then, in response to God's steadfast love, trusting that there is a way to move beyond guilt to forgiveness, let us confess our sin to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of today and tomorrow, we know that your fingerprints are all over this world. And we know that those who dream cannot keep silent. So today we pray, give us eyes to see you. Give us courage to trust you. And give us lips to speak of you in our midst. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

Minute of Silent Personal Confession *Let us sing to the Lord...*

KYRIE—ALL SING



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God, who is full of compassion, knows that those who repent have set their minds and hearts on what endures for all time. Our sins are forgiven for the Lord God is a very present help to those who seek to follow in the way of divine things. **Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Bring a Torch / What Child is This / Joy to the World
The Trinity Bell Choir

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

O God, you have always been speaking—in words, in memories, in songs, and in dreams. So today, as we prepare to hear your word read aloud, We ask that you would speak to us once again—as only you can—so that we might speak this same good news to others. We are listening. We are grateful. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 61:10-62:3

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Luke 2:22-40

SERMON

Speak Up

Elder Cindie Postell

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

HYMN ##129

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming, from tender stem hath sprung,
Of Jesse's lineage coming, by faithful prophet's sung,
It came, a floweret bright,
amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright
she bore for us a Savior, when half spent was the night.

This flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
Enfleshed, yet very God,
from sin and death he saves us and lightens every load.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

One: We believe in telling the story—

All: The story of a loving and merciful God, Who will not let God's people go; The story of a baby who grew up and changed the world; The story of our faith.

One: We believe in speaking up—

All: For our neighbors, For the oppressed, For the overlooked And marginalized.

One: We believe in speaking out—

All: Against violence, Greed, Abuse, Fear, Scarcity mindset, And bigotry.

One: We believe in passing the mic—

All: So that we are not the only ones speaking, So that we can lift up the voices of those around us, So that we too might listen and learn.

One: We believe in the good news of the gospel.

All: We believe that this good news is too good to keep to ourselves. We believe that those who dream cannot keep silent.

One: Speak to us, Holy God.

All: Speak through us, Holy God. May it be so, Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

DEDICATION

SUPPLICATION

LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN #123

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold;
“Peace on earth, good will to all, from heaven’s all gracious king”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their music floats o’er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains the bend on hovering wing,
And ever o’er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long;
Beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled two thousand years of wrong;
and we at War on earth hear not the tidings that they bring;
O, hush the noise and cease the strife to hear the angels sing.

And you beneath life’s crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil Along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
Look now for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing,
O, rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,
When with the ever circling years shall come the time foretold,
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world gives back the song which now the angel sing.

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day; English carol arr. Larry Shackley

*Portion of today’s liturgy are from Those Who Dream, Words for Worship for Advent-Epiphany, Year B,
“Adapted from a prayer by Sarah Are, A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org.”*

Guest Preacher

Elder Cindie Postell

Director of Music

Davis McKinney