

Trinity Presbyterian Church

www.trinitypresbyfairfield.org
Second Sunday of Advent
December 6, 2020

WELCOME

THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you!

PRELUDE

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence; French Carol arr. Mark Hayes

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING—Candle of Peace

Gary and Gina Anaple

CALL TO WORSHIP

John the Baptist said, “Prepare the way.” So how do we prepare our minds for worship?
We silence the inner critic. We let go of busy thoughts. We make space for God to speak.
How do we prepare our *hearts* for worship?
We bless all emotions. We feel what we feel. We open ourselves to be moved.
How do we prepare our *souls* for worship?
We bring our full selves into this space. We wear our hearts on our sleeves.
We trust that even now, God is here.

OPENING HYMN #106

Prepare the Way, O Zion

Prepare the way, O Zion, Your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley A level way appear,
Greet One who comes in glory, Foretold in sacred story,

O blest is Christ that came In God's most holy name.

Christ brings God's rule, O Zion. He comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom, And justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, For grace and joy abounding

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; Your Savior's rule embrace.
And tidings of salvation Proclaim in every place.
all lands will bow rejoicing, Their adoration voicing.

CALL TO CONFESSION

written by Rev. Tom Dunlap

As we continue this holy season in anticipation of Jesus' coming, let us open ourselves before God so that we may cleanse ourselves of any guilt we are carrying and thus create space for you to enter our hearts.

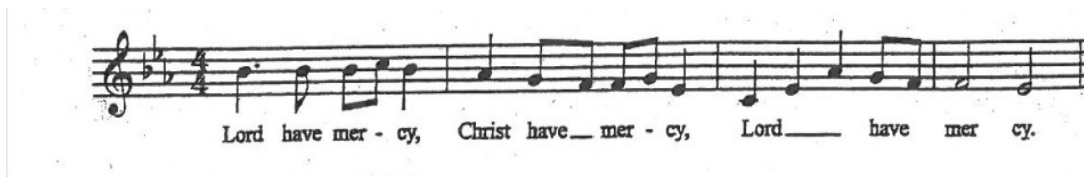
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

written by Rev. Tom Dunlap

Loving God, your love is so important to us; and yet, we freely admit that we are often guilty of taking it for granted or just willfully ignoring it. And in so doing, we become overly caught up in the busyness of the season and lose sight of our real purpose of giving. And so we pray that you help us to restore the genuine spirit of Christmas in our hearts as we prepare to once more welcome you into our world. Amen.

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

KYRIE—ALL SING



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

written by Rev. Tom Dunlap

Assured of forgiveness, let us be restored to our right minds and refocus on what we know is important so that the season becomes a true blessing in our lives. In the name of Him who comes. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing by Felix Mendelssohn arr. Larry Shackley

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 40:1-5

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Mark: 1:1-8

SERMON

The Herald

Rev. Tom Dunlap

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe that a voice cried out in the wilderness,
Saying, "Prepare the way of the Lord."
And so, we show up in worship, even from home.
We march toward justice.
We roll up our sleeves.
We choose hope.
We gather at the Table.
We fall together.
We rise together.
We love together.
We do all these things because we believe that God loves us so much that God shows up here.
So we prepare and prepare for that next beautiful day.
May it be so. Amen**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

by Rev. Thomas Dunlap

Gracious God, you call us, you welcome us, you invite us to your table.

**We come—to be fed, to be nurtured, to have our wounds
bound and our emotions healed.**

Your table is set before us.

We come—as one people with one hope.

Fear not. For I am here.

(All) With great expectation, let us now meet at your table.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

As We Gather at Your Table

1. As we gather at your table,
as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence;
let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story
till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet
how to make Love's victory known.
2. Turn our worship into witness
in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you,
bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion
to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image
in the world you died to save.

3. Gracious Spirit, help us summon
other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome
those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us
nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels
to repeat the sounding joy.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*unison*)

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his body and blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

The Lord's Prayer

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella; French Carol arr. Reed West

*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."*

Pastor

Rev. Tom Dunlap

Director of Music

Davis McKinney