



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WORSHIP GUIDE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Announcements and Greeting

Prelude

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Reader 1: Today is the second Sunday of Advent. During this season called Advent, we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Christ. The candle of hope reminds us that our only hope is in God, who promises to redeem and bless all people.

Reader 2: Isaiah announced God's coming to a people exiled in a broken and parched wilderness. He declared that God's redemption would make a highway in the desert and change the rough place into a plain. God would come as a shepherd—feeding, leading, and cradling a weary flock.

Reader 1: He proclaimed God would send a child whose name would be Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Reader 2: This Advent, we seek such a God. A God who can take away all the things that bind us and trouble our souls. A God who will hold us with gentle arms and give us security and peace. Today we light the candle of Peace.

Invocation

Hymn of Praise

"Song of Zechariah/Blest Be the God of Israel"

Blessed be the God of Israel who comes to set us free
And raises up new hope for us: a branch from David's tree.
So have the prophets long declared that with a mighty arm
God would turn back our enemies and those who wish us harm.

With promised mercy will God still the covenant recall,
The oath once sworn to Abraham, from foes to save us all,
That we might worship without fear and offer lives of praise,
In holiness and righteousness to serve God all our days.

My child, as prophet of the Lord you will prepare the way,
To tell God's people they are saved from sin's eternal sway.
Then shall God's mercy from on high shine forth and never cease
To drive away the gloom of death and lead us into peace.

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 40:3-11

Advent Drama

"John the Baptizer"

Morning Prayer

Rev. Gary Ihfe

Hymn of Reflection

"Prepare the Way of the Lord!"

A voice cries out, "Prepare the way! Prepare the way of the Lord!"
The prophet cries out, "Prepare the way! Prepare the way of the Lord!"
Every valley shall be lifted up; every mountain and hill made low.
Every crooked path shall be made straight, and the rough places plain.
The glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

A voice cries out, "Prepare the way! Prepare the way of the Lord!"
The prophet cries out, "Prepare the way! Prepare the way of the Lord!"
So comfort, comfort my people, says the Lord God who reigns on high.
To Jerusalem say, "Your night is gone, for the Lord has heard your cry. Prepare the way of the Lord."

A voice cries out, "Prepare the way! Prepare the way of the Lord!"
The prophet cries out, "Prepare the way! Prepare the way of the Lord!"
Prepare the way of the Lord!

Gospel Lesson

Luke 3:1-18

Sermon

"Clear the Clutter"

Rev. Jodie Ihfe

Hymn of Commitment

"Even So Come"

Benediction

Postlude