

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

28 November 2021

8:30 and 10:00 a.m.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Silent Reflection: “Ultimately the soul attracts that which it secretly harbors, that which it loves, and also that which it fears. It reaches the height of its cherished aspirations, it falls to the level of its unchastened desires, and circumstances are the means by which the soul receives its own.”

- James Allen, *As a Man Thinketh* (New York: Grosset and Dunlap, 1924), 14.

Words of Welcome - Welcome, dear friends. Because nothing can “separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:39), we have gathered to respond in worship and praise. Please fill out the attendance card in your bulletin and drop them in the offering plates at the end of the service. Thank you!

WE GATHER AROUND GOD’S WORD

Prelude: *Liturgical Sketch #2*

Rosalia Lopez (United States, b. 1977)

The Lighting of the First Advent Candle

8:30 Doug, Brandi, Molli, Lainey and Olivia Schutz

10:00 Dan, Shelly, Abbey and Faith Smith; Marilyn Shannon

Opening Hymn: No. 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Hyfrydol

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

Almighty God, we have all become like those who are unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities – like the wind – take us away. We fail to call upon your name. We don’t stir to take hold of your plan for us. Yet you are our God. We are the clay and you are the potter. May all that we do be the work of your hand. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon:

Friends, believe the good news of the gospels.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Hymn to the Glory of God: No. 93

vs. 3

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Truro

Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.

Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.

GOD’S WORD IS SPOKEN TO US

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Lesson: Mark 13:24-37

Pew Bible p. 61-62

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message for Young Disciples

Old Testament: Isaiah 64:1-9

Pew Bible p. 849-850

Sermon:

WHICH WAY TO TURN
The Rev. Dr. Brian K. Jensen

GOD MOVES US TO RESPOND

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)

Presbyterian Hymnal p. 35

*I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead,
and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Prayers of the People

Joys and Concerns

When the minister prays, "Lord, we lift these joys to you,"
the congregation responds, "**Thanks be to God.**"

When the minister prays, "Lord, we lift these concerns to you,"
the congregation responds, "**Lord hear our prayer.**"

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Presbyterian Hymnal p. 35

*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.*

GOD SENDS US FORTH TO SERVE

The Sacrament of Communion

Communion Interlude: *Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland* (Savior of the Nations, Come)

J.S. Bach (Germany, 1685-1750)

Hymn of Commitment: No. 97

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

Aberystwyth

Charge and Benediction

Postlude: *Psalm 19 (The Heavens Declare God's Glory)*

Benedetto Marcello (Italy, 1686-1739)

The Service is Ended, Go in Peace.