

DECEMBER 9, 2018 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Worship 9:30am

Sunday School 10:50am

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Janelle Arnett Campbell, organist

WELCOME AND PRAYER

Carmen Shelly, worship leader

*HYMN #174

Bless'd be the God of Israel

Lighting the Advent sculpture** today are Alison Bush, Annie Jones, and Keith Jantz, volunteers with the Cross-lines Christmas store. Their work helps all of us remember that one way to bring peace is to address inequality in our community.

WE LISTEN AND LEARN

CONVERSATION WITH CHILDREN HYMN #196 Stanzas 1,2,3,6

Nick Schroeder While shepherds watched

ANTHEM In the bleak mid-winter See anthem words printed inside the bulletin

Holst

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:5-25; 57-80

SERMON The gift and curse of silence

*HYMN #189 To us a child of hope is born

WE RESPOND AND SHARE

SHARING JOY

We welcome the introduction of guests and visitors during this time. One way we get to know one another is by signing the friendship registers. Once the register reaches the center aisle, please pass it back to the outer aisle.

SHARING CONCERNS

PRAYING TOGETHER

Slips of paper are available in the pew racks for those who wish to offer joys and concerns silently and anonymously. These papers, if put in the offering plate, will be placed in the prayer bowl table at the front of the sanctuary.

OFFERING

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you did not have time to submit a written announcement, or if something new needs highlighting, please hand your written announcement to the worship leader or pastor <u>before</u> the worship service.



Children in K-5grades are dismissed for WorshipArts (Room 120), a time for children to respond to worship, ask questions, and learn more about the language, ritual, movement, sound and art incorporated in worship.

6th-12th grade women are also dismissed for women's ensemble rehearsal in room 111.

WE GO INTO THE WORLD WITH LOVE

*SENDING FORTH PRAYER, HYMN AND POSTLUDE

- L: Go forth from this place an awakened people, aware of silence, seeking a voice.
- C: We listen for God at work in our world.
- L: Go forth from this place an expectant people, conscious of injustice, awaiting God's new order.
- C: We welcome God's new day of peace.
- L: Go forth from this place a serving people, confident that God will bring healing and hope to our world.

ALL: Amen.

*POSTLUDE

Please remain standing for the postlude.

* Please stand in body or in spirit.

Unless otherwise indicated, hymns are in the blue *Hymnal: A Worship Book*. Songs designated "SS" are in the purple *Sing the Story* hymnal. As we sing, please use language that makes worship most meaningful, enriching and inclusive.

Anthem text:

- 1 In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.
- 2 Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign. In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.
- 3 Angels and archangels may have gathered there, cherubim and seraphim thronged the air; but his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved with a kiss.
- 4 What can I give him, poor as I am?
 If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
 if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;
 yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

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WHO WILL COME?

During recent weeks, the WorshipArts children have been privileged to watch their ideas unfold as resident artist Jesse Graber spontaneously draws the images the children convey as they share their observations and responses to concepts inspired by the morning's worship service. This year's Advent bulletin covers are the result of one such collaboration. In preparation for starting our work on the upcoming Christmas program titled "Who Will Come to Bethlehem?", we pondered several questions – including, "If Jesus were born today, how would we know and where would we find Him?"

As you peruse the children's responses above, we invite you to ponder with us on this second Sundy of Advent. How will the message of peace be spread? Where will we find Bethlehem?

[&]quot;on a farm"

[&]quot;in a fancy house or a fancy building"

[&]quot;in a hospital"

^{**}The light sculpture at the front of the sanctuary was created by Arlie Regier and his son Paul. We have cherished the long tradition of featuring this gift during Advent and Christmas.