

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

Let us take this time to quiet our hearts and minds and prepare for worship.

* Please stand if able Plain text = Leader **Bold text = People**

PRELUDE *Mary, Did You Know?* Mark Lowery and Buddy Greene
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, piano Arr. Don Wrytzen

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS The Rev. Dr. Laura S. Sugg

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder
Jesus says: I am coming soon.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
God sends good news to the oppressed.
Let us worship God.

* HYMN *People Look East* No. 12

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES Bob and Nancy Rosi
(Candle Lighters come forward during the final verse of the hymn)

CALL TO PRAYER & PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated) Elder
Let us pray,
God our Maker, we confess that we are not ready to meet you.
You send your Spirit to release us, yet we remain captivated by sin.
You stand among us in Christ Jesus, yet we claim we do not know you.
Forgive us, God of grace. Make us holy; make us whole.
Keep us safe and sound until the day of your coming;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg
Amen. If we are in Christ, we are new people altogether;
the past is finished and gone, everything has become fresh and new.
In your great mercy, O God,
raise us from the death of sin to newness of life,
and make us your people, unburdened by the past,
unfearful of the future, and joyful in the eternal present,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* SUNG RESPONSE (Stand as desired.) *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?* No. 11 v 3
A glorious crown you give me, A treasure safe on high,
That will not fail or leave me As earthly riches fly.
My heart shall bloom forever, For you with praises new.
And from Your name shall never Withhold the honor due.

HEARING THE WORD

GOSPEL READING John 1:6-8, 19-28 Pgs.86-87
Heaven and earth will pass away, Deacon
but the word of the Lord stands forever.
Thanks be to God. from Isaiah 40:8, Mark 13:31

ANTHEM *Carol of the Advent* Traditional
Arr. Philip Deitterrich

TIME WITH CHILDREN & YOUTH *(As children & youth come forward, please sing.)*
This, this is where children belong, part of our family, part of our song.
Be with us, pray with us, help us grow strong, this is where children belong.

SERMON *John the Doppelganger* Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed (Traditional) Elder
Front of Hymnal Pg. 14
* HYMN *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry* No.10

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP Betty Piperato

* PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER Front of Hymnal Pg. 16
(Pray, "Forgive us our sins...")

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING
All things in heaven and earth belong to God, from 2 Peter 3:8-15
who is coming in glory to reveal a new creation.
Let us offer our lives to the Lord. The offering will now be received.

OFFERTORY *Angels We Have Heard On High* French Carol
Ridge Ringers Arr. By Joel Raney

* PRESENTATION OF OFFERING Tune: No. 23

**Let the nations shout and sing: glory to their Savior bring;
All below and all above sing your praise with joyous love.
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo; glo—ria in excelsis Deo.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Laura Sugg

Thanks be to you, O God, maker of heaven and earth—
giver of justice, lover of righteousness, hope of the afflicted,
and friend of the poor. Your faithfulness never fails.

Psalm 146:5-10

**Take and use these gifts we offer to further your purpose in the world
and to fulfill the promise of the world to come;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

* HYMN *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* No. 38

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: *How Majestic Is Your Name* STF 2023

**O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
O Lord, we praise your name. O Lord, we magnify your name;
Prince of Peace, mighty God; O Lord God Almighty.**

POSTLUDE *Adeste Fidelis* John Frances Wade
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, piano Arr. Don Wyrzten

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.

Pulpit Elder: Marny Eulberg	Deacon Reader: Janette Powers
Greeters: J.C. Chidiac & Katy L. Kane	Usher: Jeff Stimson
Sound Engineer: Jim Niquette	Time with Children & Youth: Roxanne Foster
Flowers: Jeanne Miller	

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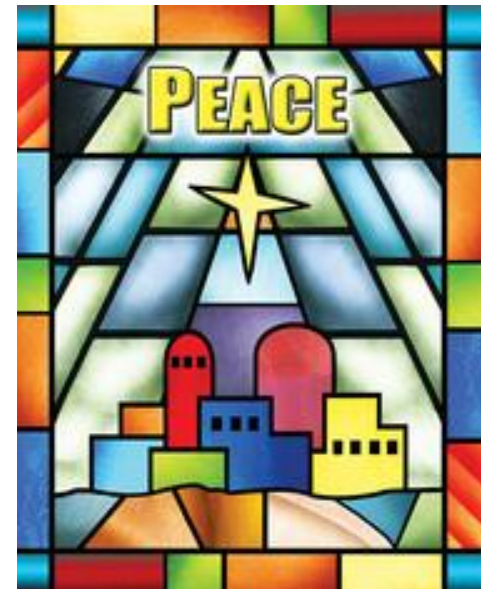
Director of Christian Education, Children & Youth: *Linda Valo*

Organist, Hand Bell Choir Director: *Julie Pulliam, M.A.*

Choir Director: *Katie Sakanai, M.M. Ed.*

Treasurer: *Eileen Gardner, C.P.A.* • Assistant Treasurer: *Betsy Smith*

Administrative Assistant: *Jenny Garner*



*WPC Mission Statement
To worship God through faith and action,
To nurture the spirit of Jesus Christ in each of us,
To be an extended family to all,
And to serve the community
through programs, education, and prayer.*

***Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2017***