



A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

December 5, 2021
Second Sunday of Advent

PEACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

301 Guinness Drive ▪ Winterville, North Carolina 28590-9943 ▪ (252) 355-2273

www.peacepresbyterian.org

Grow in Grace, Live in Peace, Serve the Lord

We Gather as God's People

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

PRELUDE

Italian Concerto, BWV 971, first movement

J. S. Bach

*CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE PROPHET'S CANDLE Ruth Hines and Bryan Williamson, liturgists

One: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

All: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

One: Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." (Isaiah 40: 3-5)

All: The Advent Wreath reminds us of God's eternal love; without beginning and without end. The candles of the wreath remind us of the biblical story of God's unconditional love.

One: We light the first candle of the Advent Wreath, the Prophets' candle, to remind us of the hope the prophets declared for the coming of the Messiah.

All: We light the second candle of the Advent Wreath, the Candle of Bethlehem, to remind us that Mary and Joseph journeyed to Bethlehem and it was there that their son Jesus was born in a stable.

*HYMN #133

O, Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant; O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come, and behold him, born the King of angels! O come, let us adore him; let us adore him;

O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation; sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest! O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be weighed down by the sins and worries of this world, but watch and pray for the grace of God." (Luke 21) With confidence in God's mercy, let us confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Refining God, you have sent prophets and we have not listened. We have not always determined what is best or made way for your reign in our lives, in our church, and in our society. Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us and among us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Hear now our silent individual confessions. *(Silent Confession)*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, if we repent, God is sure to forgive us. The One who began a good work in us will bring it to completion. Grateful for the promises of joy and peace, let us extend that same joy, forgiveness and peace to those around us.

RESPONSE TO GOD'S FORGIVENESS Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Good born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall. Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save! Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was

We Share God's Word

SCRIPTURE READING

Ruth 1: 15-22

SERMON

"Journeying Home to the House of Bread " Reverend Debbie Osterhoudt

We Respond to God's Word

SPECIAL MUSIC

Tu Scendi Dalle Stelle
(From Starry Skies Descending)

St Alphonsus de Liguori
arr. Stephen DeCesare

This is one of Italy's most beloved Christmas songs. It is sung by children, and has been recorded by choirs and opera stars through the years. We will sing it in English for you this morning, and the translation we are singing is true to the Italian text.

OFFERING

Offertory

Offertory Music

Keyboard Sonata in D minor, K. 32, Aria

Domenico Scarlatti

***Hymn of Dedication #606**

"Doxology"

***Prayer of Dedication**

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution

Special Music

By The Father's Love

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Our Lord's Prayer

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.

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

***HYMN #121**

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

We Go Forth As God's People

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

May the Love of the Lord

SOON TI

**May the love of the Lord rest upon your soul.
May God's love dwell in you, throughout every day.
May God's countenance shine upon you and be gracious to you.
May God's Spirit be upon you as you leave this place.**

POSTLUDE

Sonatina in G major, Op 36 No 5. 1. Presto

Muzio Clementi

***You are invited to stand.**

Worship Leadership Reverend Debbie Osterhoudt, Preacher Ruth Hines, Bryan Williamson, Liturgists Peggy Vaughan, Music Director John Holter, piano Chancel Choir Ushers: Jim Bryant, Lucy Freeman Ron Skinner, audio and video Communion Team: Lucy Freeman, Jim Bryant, Pam & Paul Gares
Worship Ministry Team Chair, Joanne Lang

WORSHIP NOTES Based on CDC data and the COVID 19 infection rate in our county and state, we are **requiring** that all people wear masks during worship. Masks are available at the welcome table.