

ADVENT 2020

# LIGHT *of the* WORLD



First Presbyterian Church  
OF LAKE FOREST

December 6, 2020

Second Sunday of Advent

## PRAYER of DAY

God of grace,  
your eternal Word took flesh among us  
when Mary placed her life  
at the service of your will.  
Prepare our hearts for his coming again;  
keep us steadfast in hope  
and faithful in service,  
that we may receive the coming of his kingdom  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, the ruler of all,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.

**PRELUDE**

**Nave (Divinum Mysterium)**

arr. Robert Hebble, 1995

**THE WELCOME**

## LIGHTING the ADVENT WREATH

*The Fidler Family*

### CALL to WORSHIP

- Isa. 7:14; Mic. 5:2, 5

Leader: Look! The young woman is with child;

**People: She will call him Emmanuel, for God is with us.**

Leader: A ruler will come from Bethlehem,

**People: And he will shepherd us in peace.**

### HYMN of PRAISE, No 105

**People, Look East**

TUNE: BESANCON

*People, look east. The time is near  
of the crowning of the year.*

*Make your house fair as you are able;  
trim the hearth and set the table.*

*People, look east: Love, the Guest, is on the way.*

*Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,  
one more seed is planted there.*

*Give up your strength the seed to nourish,  
that in course the flower may flourish.*

*People, look east: Love, the Rose, is on the way.*

*Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim  
one more light the bowl shall brim,*

*shining beyond the frosty weather,  
bright as sun and moon together.*

*People, look east: Love, the Star, is on the way.*

*Angels, announce with shouts of mirth  
Christ who brings new life to earth.*

*Set every peak and valley humming  
with the word, the Lord is coming.*

*People, look east: Love, the Lord, is on the way.*

*People, look east: (Love is on the way.)*

## **PRAYER of CONFESSION**

**God of the future,  
you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule.  
We confess that we have not expected your kingdom,  
for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment.  
We accept lies as truth,  
exploit neighbors,  
abuse the earth,  
and refuse your justice and peace.**

**In your mercy, forgive us.  
Grant us wisdom to welcome your way,  
and to seek things that will endure  
when Christ comes to judge the world.**

## **DECLARATION of FORGIVENESS**

Isa. 40:4-5

Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low.  
Now the glory of the Lord is revealed,  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **SUNG RESPONSE**

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**  
*O come, thou Root of Jesse free,  
thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell thy people save  
and give them victory o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Tune: VENI EMMANUEL

## **PASSING the PEACE of CHRIST**

## **SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS**

## **PASTORAL PRAYERS**

## **OFFERING**

**I Wonder as I Wander**  
*Susan Noble, Soloist*

John Jacob Niles

## **A READING FROM SCRIPTURE**

Luke 1:26-38, 46-55

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

And Mary said,  
'My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.  
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
 and holy is his name.  
 His mercy is for those who fear him  
 from generation to generation.  
 He has shown strength with his arm;  
 he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.  
 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
 and lifted up the lowly;  
 he has filled the hungry with good things,  
 and sent the rich away empty.  
 He has helped his servant Israel,  
 in remembrance of his mercy,  
 according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
 to Abraham and to his descendants forever.'

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**MEDITATION**

**"The Promise of Potential"**

Rev. Clinton G. Roberts

**THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**GATHERING SONG**

Come to the ta - ble of grace. \_\_\_\_\_ Come to the  
 ta - ble of grace. \_\_\_\_\_ This is God's ta - ble; it's  
 not yours or mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace. \_\_\_\_\_

## The Invitation

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

### The 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 the Bread and Cup

*(Please prepare your morsels of bread and juice in your homes this morning, as we partake together in the unity of the Holy Spirit. All are welcomed to join in this Sacrament.)*

## CLOSING PRAYER

**HYMN OF SENDING, No 129**

**Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming**

TUNE: ES IST EIN' ROS'

*Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,  
of Jesse's lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung.  
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,  
when half spent was the night.*

*Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;  
with Mary we behold, the virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright she bore for us a Savior,  
when half spent was the night.*

*This flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,  
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.  
Enfleshed, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us  
and lightens every load.*

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

**Bryn Calfaría**

Welsh tune  
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

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***Pastor Kristie's day off is on Friday. Pastor Clint's day off is on Monday.***

### **Worship Participants**

**Rev. Clinton Roberts**

**Rev. Kristie Finley**

**Jim Cochrane, Director of Youth Ministries**

**Sarah Seccombe, Director of Children's Ministries**

**Barry Wenger, Director of Bell Choirs and Organist**

**Tom Tropp, Director of Music and Arts**

**Susan Noble, Director of Children's Music**

**Will Elliot, AV Support**

**Peter Elliot, AV Support**