

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent Sunday, December 6, 2020



WELCOME / PRELUDE

Trio Rheinberger Grant Underwood

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

- P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.
- P: Let us pray. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: Amen.



- P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,
- C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.
- P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen





## **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

A Kyrie may be spoken.

- P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C: Amen.



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



**First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11** L. A reading from Isaiah Ernie Lehman

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. <sup>3</sup>A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. <sup>5</sup>Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

<sup>6</sup>A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. <sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. <sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. <sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" <sup>10</sup>See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. <sup>11</sup>He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

- L: The word of the Lord
- C: Thanks be to God



## Psalm: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

**Ernie Lehman** 

<sup>1</sup>You have been gracious to your land, O LORD; you have restored the good fortune of Jacob. <sup>2</sup>You have forgiven the iniquity of your people and blotted out all their sins. <sup>8</sup>I will listen to what the LORD God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you. <sup>9</sup>Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land. <sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other. <sup>11</sup>Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven. <sup>12</sup>The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase. <sup>13</sup>Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.



## Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

**Ernie Lehman** 

L: A reading from Peter

<sup>8</sup>Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

<sup>11</sup>Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? <sup>13</sup>But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; <sup>15a</sup>and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

- L: The word of the Lord
- C: Thanks be to God



**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia.** Prepare the way of the Lord. All flesh shall see the salvation of **God.** Alleluia. (Luke 3:4, 6)

#### THE HOLY GOSPEL Mark 1:1-8

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the first chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
<sup>2</sup>As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,
"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way;
<sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"



<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

- P: The Gospel of the Lord
- C: Praise to you, O Christ



### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**Pastor Paul Lutz** 

# THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH Advent 2

Allen & Pam Nemetz

We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

Amen.



Light 2 candles. Sing the second verse of Light One Candle.





## NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.



#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of power and might, comfort your people and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

A brief silence.

- P: Faithful God, you teach us to wait for you with faithfulness and patience.
   Sustain and support us in our doubts and questions. Nurture our faith as we discern and enact your mission. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.
- P: Loving God, you set the stars in the sky and breathe life into the earth. Renew the face of creation where it is in need of your healing touch. Mend the wounds of environmental damage and restore balance to ecosystems so that all creation can declare your praise. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.
- P: Steadfast God, you never tire of seeking justice. Where people suffer from discrimination, judgment, and injustice, speak words of truth and comfort. Lead us toward a world where faithfulness will sprout underfoot and righteousness rain down from above. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.

P: Leading God, you ask us to make uneven ground smooth. Make even the disparities between your people. Sustain and support people with physical and intellectual disabilities. Accompany disability advocates who work for a world accessible to all. Teach us to celebrate the great diversity in our midst. Hear us, O God.

#### C: Your mercy is great.

- P: Tender God, you know sorrow and joy alike. We pray for those in our families and congregation who are not joyful in this holiday season. Comfort those who grieve, be a companion to all who are lonely, tend those who are sick or struggling with depression, and gather all people in your healing embrace. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.
- P: Eternal God, we give thanks for the saints who have prepared your way in the wilderness and taught us to continue their faithful work (*especially Nicholas of Myra*). Make their generous lives an example for all. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.
- P: Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: Amen.



ANTHEM

Excerpt from Meditation in C Minor Fischer Grant Underwood





#### THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

- P: O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.
- C. Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer is prayed by all.

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.



#### **OFFERING MOMENT AND PRAYER**

Generous God, you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray. **C: Amen.** 

#### BLESSING





#### DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord. **C. Thanks be to God.** 

#### POSTLUDE

Bereden väg för Herran

#### Grant Underwood



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