

**Third Sunday of Advent: Joy  
Sunday, December 12, 2021**



**A Service of Lessons and Carols**

*Welcome to worship at Faith Presbyterian Church! We are glad you are joining us this morning. Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whomever you love, whatever your faith or your doubt, we welcome all whom God welcomes, and that means you. As we begin our time together, take a few deep breaths and settle in, to make the transition from getting here to being here, and to prepare your mind and body for worship.*

**Faith Presbyterian Church  
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich**

**Joys and Concerns \*\***

**GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

**Prelude** *O Come, Little Children*

setting Richard Lind  
(b. 1943)

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit; unison parts are in bold.*

**\*Call to Worship**

**Ron Sperling**

We gather so that our deeply held hopes might be reshaped by God's promises.

**Emmanuel, God-With-Us, help us prepare for your coming.**

We look towards the day when God will make for us a future free from fear, a world free from suffering.

**Word made flesh, ready our hearts for your arrival.**

We hope for peace, for joy, for love to be known throughout the earth.

**Jesus the Christ, we await your advent among us!**

**\*Hymn 82** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

**Call to Confession**

## Prayer of Confession

God our savior, we ask for mercy. Though we have heard Mary's song, we still hold fast to power and possessions. Though we know your story, we resist the cost of following you. We pass by the lowly, turn away from the hungry, and do not challenge injustice when we see it. We are lifeless when we ought to dance, and speechless when we should stand and shout aloud.

Forgive us, we pray! Enable us to be makers of Christ's peace, loving and serving others even as we await his coming. We open our hearts to you in silent prayer...

## Kyrie 301 *Come Now, O Prince of Peace*

O-SO-SO

1 Come now, O Prince of Peace; make us one bod - y.  
2 Come now, O God of love; make us one bod - y.

Come, O Lord Je - sus; rec-on-cile all peo - ple.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes.

## Assurance of Grace

### \*Gloria 646 *Sing Out, My Soul*

MAGNIFICAT

Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and  
glo - ri - fy the Lord who sets us free. Sing out, my soul.  
Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord God!

The musical score is written for three staves, all in Treble clef, in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes.

## A Moment with Faith Kids

### Lighting the Advent Candle

Samuel Springer, Gabriella Anthony, Payton Lemon

*Congregation responds:*

**Let us prepare with joy, light candles and pray: Come, Emmanuel.**

*the candles are lit*

### \*Creative Advent Prayer

As a sign of our preparation for Christ's coming, we are creating a window with our prayers. We invite you to come add color to the window, to show our joy in God's promise of a world made new.

## A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

### Prayer for Illumination

**Lesson 1** Psalm 130 – *The Psalmist prays for God's salvation*

Ron Sperling

Wait for the Lord, whose steadfast love endures forever.

**Our souls wait for the Lord, eager for the day of his dawning.**

\***Hymn 89** *For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits*

MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS

*congregation sings the refrain, choir sing verses 1-2, 4-5*

**Lesson 2** Isaiah 11:1-9 – *A vision of God's peaceable reign*

Principal Brandon Pinkney

Walter P. Carter School

In the reign of God, strangers become friends and all places know peace.

**We will work for peace in our lives and in our world.**

\***Hymn 129** *Lo, How A Rose Ere Blooming*

ES IST EIN' ROS'

**Lesson 3** *Gabriel's Annunciation* by Jan Richardson

Rev. Cat Goodrich

The angel told Mary, "Do not be afraid!"

**With courage and faith, we will say "yes" to God.**

**Anthem** I Sing A Lullaby

Michael Perza

**Lesson 4** Luke 2:1-7 — *The Savior is born*

Kurtis Moore

There was no room in the inn for the weary travelers.

**We will make room in our hearts for those in need.**

\***Hymn 145** *What Child Is This*

GREENSLEEVES

**Lesson 5** Luke 2:8-14 — *The heavens rejoice*

Cal Burns

As the child was wrapped in bands of cloth, so we are wrapped in God's love.

**With grateful hearts, we will share that love with all.**

**Anthem** *Sheep May Safely Graze*

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

**Lesson 6** *In Search of our Kneeling Places* by Ann Weems

Yvonne Davis

This Advent, let's go to Bethlehem

**And find our kneeling places.**

**Lesson 7** John 1:1-14 — *The light shines in the darkness*

Jack Nesbitt

The Word of God, for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn 127** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT

## Prayer

Holy God, we have heard the story of our faith: The prophets' words of promise, the mystery and miracle of your birth in our world. By the power of your Spirit, make us ready to welcome you anew.

May your coming bring peace and goodwill among all people, comfort for the suffering, healing for the sick, and liberation for the oppressed. With deepest gratitude for the precious gift of the Christ child, we pray, amen.

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Minute for Mission Refugee Resettlement

Karen Minor

### Invitation to the Offering

If you wish to contribute online, please scan the QR code with your mobile device to be directed to Faith's online giving site.



Offertory *Prepare Thyself Zion*

Johann Sebastian Bach

Ayanna Freelon, *soprano*

### Prayers of the People and Our Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

### SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

\*Hymn 102 *Savior of the Nations, Come*

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

\*Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Paen on "Divinum Mysterium"*

John Cook  
(b. 1950)

### LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich, *Pastor*

Dr. Samuel Springer, *Minister of Music and Organist*

Ron Sperling, *Liturgist*

Ayanna Freelon, *Soloist*

Andy Fuller, *Audio/Camera Operator*

Karen Burd, *Zoom Moderator*

Dawn Shirey, *PowerPoint Operator*

\*\***Joys and Concerns:** We are a community who prays with and for each other. There is a book in the narthex where you may write your joys and concerns, to be included in the Prayers of the People and shared in our weekly prayer chain email. If you would like to be added to the prayer chain email: faithchurchbalt@gmail.com

**This week we pray for:**

Neal Hairston  
John Reale and the Seavers-Reale family  
Robert Ingram

Ann Scheck  
Faith's homebound members

**Announcements**

**The Forum** *Sundays 9:15 Woodbourne Room & Zoom*

**Advent November 28 through December 19**

Advent Study *Mary Had a Baby: An Advent Study based on African American Spirituals* by Cheryl Kirk-Duggan and Marilyn Thornton  
*December*

19<sup>th</sup> Go Tell It on the Mountain

**Pageant Sunday** *December 19 during worship*

Susan Johnston has written another original Christmas pageant, "God with Us". The children and youth of Faith will present the pageant during worship. You won't want to miss it.

**A Service of the Longest Night** *Wednesday, December 21 at 6:00 in the Chapel*

The winter solstice marks longest night of the year. In this service, we will make space for grief and lament after a difficult year while holding fast to Advent hope in God's promises through scripture, silence and song.

**Christmas Eve Worship** *December 24 at 5:00*

Celebrate Christ's birth with candlelight and communion.

**Carol Sing** *December 26*

Choose a verse of favorite carol and make a joyful noise with your friends and family at Faith!

**Wednesday Bible Study** *11:00 a.m. in Woodbourne Room & Zoom*

Join Cat every Wednesday to reflect on the coming Sunday's lectionary passage. All are welcome!

**Hand Bells and Chancel Choir** *Rehearsal Thursdays*

The Faith Bell Choir rehearses at 6pm. Never played bells? We'll teach you everything you need to know. You get to wear white gloves and be a part of a fun-loving bunch. The Chancel Choir rehearses at 7pm, come and make a joyful noise with your friends at Faith!

**Welcoming Visitors to Faith Church**

**Visitors are welcome at Faith** – we are a community that seeks, stands, and serves together. If you would like to learn more about how to join us in that ministry by becoming a member of our congregation, email the pastor Cat Goodrich, [cgoodrichpcbalt@gmail.com](mailto:cgoodrichpcbalt@gmail.com).

**Prayground** – children are welcome at Faith! At the front of the sanctuary, there is a *Prayground* for younger ones. There you will find books, coloring pages, children's bulletins, and other quiet activities to keep small hands busy during worship.

**Restroom** – the closest restroom is outside the door at the front of the sanctuary (by the pulpit), just turn right.



# Christmas Flowers and Funds

During this festive season, we ask you to remember friends and loved ones with a contribution. Poinsettias will grace the chancel and be delivered to our care list or you may choose to take yours. Your contributions to Music, Bread and DEAR Funds reflect Faith's mission. Your memorials and celebrations will be published in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_

## Poinsettias

Orders must be received by **December 19**. \_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettia(s), donation \$15.00 each

*Please circle one*  
In Memory/Celebration of

*Please circle one*  
In Memory/Celebration of

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Flower Donation Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Faith's Music Ministry *supports the music ministry*

*Please circle one*  
In Memory/Celebration of

*Please circle one*  
In Memory/Celebration of

\_\_\_\_\_

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Music Ministry Donation Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Faith's Bread Fund *provides food for those in need.*

*Please circle one*  
In Memory/Celebration of

*Please circle one*  
In Memory/Celebration of

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Bread Donation Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## DEAR (Deacons Emergency Assistance Resource) *provides assistance to Faith Church members.*

*Please circle one*  
In Memory/Celebration of

*Please circle one*  
In Memory/Celebration of

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

DEAR Donation Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to the church office along with your donation or place in the offering. Please designate "flowers," "music," "bread fund" or "DEAR" on the memo line of your check

