

CLOSE to HOME

Anaheim First Presbyterian Church

December 12, 2021 @ 10:30 am

PRELUDE

Deck the Hall

arr. David Huntsinger

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

O Hearken Ye

Alfred Burt

CALL TO WORSHIP

A voice calls out in the wilderness.

It sings of a home for all. It speaks of justice and peace.

We could choose to ignore it.

We could drown out that song. We could choose not to listen.

Instead, we come into this space.

We let the world grow quiet. We listen.

A voice calls out in the wilderness. Do you hear it?

We hear it. In listening, we worship.

Let us draw near to God.

HYMN NO 13

Prepare the Way

Besancon

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!

Let every hill and valley a level way appear.

Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.

Refrain: O blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Christ brings God's rule, O Zion; He comes from heaven above.

His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.

Lift high your praise resounding, For grace and joy abounding. [Refrain]

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace.

And tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.

All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing. [Refrain]

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: THE CANDLE OF JOY

Today we relight the candles of Hope and Peace remembering how Christ comes near to us in our homesickness and leads us into the path of peace as we look to receive God's gift of Joy.

Relight the Candles of Hope and Peace

Joy is seeing people you love after months apart.

Joy is hearing, "Come on over, it has been too long!"

Joy is the stretches and giggles of a newborn child.

Joy is making it home when the journey is long.

Joy is your dog sliding to meet you at the door.

Joy is the energy of a new season, the feeling found when you thought you were lost.

So today we light the candle of joy, because the welcome God has for us is nothing short of joyful

Light the Candle of Joy

Family of faith, rest in the good news. Let it wash over you. We are close to home. Amen.

ANTHEM Light the Advent Candle arr. Douglas Wagner

PASSING OF THE PEACE

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 3:1-18

SERMON "A Home for All"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH ADAPTED FROM THE WORSHIP SOURCEBOOK

**IN LOVE JESUS CAME TO A STABLE IN BETHLEHEM TO MAKE HIS HOME WITH US
IN LOVE, HE WALKED THE PLAINS AND HILLS OF GALILEE AND JUDEA WITHOUT A PLACE TO CALL
HOME IN ORDER TO TEACH US HOW TO LIVE.**

IN LOVE, HE WAS NAILED ON A CROSS ON CALVARY TO BEAR AWAY OUR SIN.

IN LOVE, HE ROSE FROM A TOMB IN JOSEPH'S GARDEN TO DEFEAT DEATH'S POWER OVER US.

IN LOVE, HE ASCENDED BEYOND THE CLOUDS TO BE OUR REIGNING LORD.

**JESUS DRAWS NEAR TO US IN LOVE SO THAT WE NEED NEVER FEEL UNLOVED, DESERTED, ALONE,
CONDEMNED. THANKS BE TO GOD. AMEN.'**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.**

HYMN 40 *Joy to the World*

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King:
Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing...

Joy to the World! The Savior reigns: Let us our songs employ:
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy...

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow far as the curse is found...

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness, and wonders of his love...

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Joy to the World arr. Fred Bock

Today's Worship Leaders:

Kim Skilling, Pastor

David Hughes, Director of Music, Carol Hughes, Accompanist

Abbott Hatch & Richard Ramich, Video and Sound