

# THOSE WHO *prepare the way* DREAM

*2<sup>ND</sup> Sunday in Advent*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 6, 2020

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### LIGHT ONE CANDLE

*You will be invited to light a candle in your home at the same time the candle in the sanctuary is lit.  
We will follow the lighting of our candles with this response:*

**May this light be an invitation to keep awake and may it be our invitation to be Advent people—  
people who dream. Amen.**

### CHORAL INTROIT

*Gloria in Excelsis Deo*

William Hall

### CALL TO WORSHIP

John the Baptist said, “Prepare the way.”

So family of faith, how do we prepare our minds for worship?

**We silence the inner critic. We let go of busy thoughts. We make space for God to speak.**

How do we prepare our hearts for worship?

**We bless all emotions. We feel what we feel. We open ourselves up to be moved.**

How do we prepare our bodies for worship?

**We take in the scents and sights around us. We breathe in God’s mercy. We exhale God’s love.**

How do we prepare our souls for worship?

**We bring our full selves. We wear our hearts on our sleeves. We trust that even now, God is here.**

Family of faith, what we practice in worship, we must live out in our daily lives.

So prepare the way. Let us worship God.

### HYMN NO.9

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,*

*that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;*

*Bind envy, strife, and discord cease; Fill the whole world with heaven’s peace.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we wish that peace was something we could buy. We wish that peace could be ordered in a subscription service, found on a map, downloaded in an app, or voted for in a ballot. We wish that peace was as easy as a one-time choice when we are feeling our best. However, what we have found is that peace involves everyday decisions over and over, whether or not we are feeling our best. So today we confess, as part of this community of faith, that we need your help in this Advent season. Prepare the way for greater peace, and teach us how to be a part of it.

## ANTHEM

*He Came Here For Me*

Ron Nelson

## SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:1-8

## SERMON

“Shift Happens”

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

### Invitation

### Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

### 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.**

### Communion of the People

*(Pastor Kim will invite you to eat whatever bread and juice/wine you have prepared)*

### HYMN NO.38 (vs. 1 & 4) *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

*It came upon the midnight clear; that glorious song of old.*

*From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:*

*“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven’s all gracious King”:*

*The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.*

*For lo, the days are hastening on, By prophet bards foretold,*

*When with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold;*

*When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,*

*And the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.*

## CHORAL BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* R.S. Willis, arr. D. Huntsinger