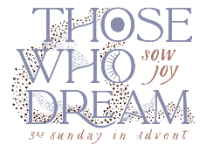




Sunday, December 13th, 2020 Service Online
Faith Presbyterian Church
Third Sunday in Advent
Those Who Dream... Sow Joy



PRELUDE *"Lullaby for the Savior"* - Logan

INTROIT *"Emmanuel"* - George & Ruth Van Otten and George Wheat

CALL TO WORSHIP

Once upon a time, there was a little girl who had a terrible day.
She left her lunch at home.
She skinned her knee on the playground, and no one wanted to sit with her on the bus.
As she sank into her mother's arms at the end of the day, her mother said,
"Honey, what was the best part of today?"
The little girl cried and said, "Nothing! The entire day was terrible."
So the mother got down on one knee, wiped away her tears and said,
"There is always some good. Sometimes we just really have to look for it."
The little girl looked up at her mom and said, "What is good about today?"
And the mother said, "For starters, you're here in my arms."

Friends, anytime we gather together to worship God, we are here in God's arms.
So may we recognize that gift, and in doing so, may we sow joy.
Let us worship Holy God.

OPENING HYMN *"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"* #93

*Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
behold the King of glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here.*

*Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.*

*Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee;
Here, Lord, abide.
Let me thy inner presence feel;
Thy grace and love in me reveal.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison) Jesse Cordova

All-knowing God, we confess our worry and anxiety over unimportant matters. We admit the fears that make us defensive instead of loving. We acknowledge our resentment over losses we have sustained and oppression we have suffered. We recognize that we have been far

more concerned for our own welfare than for the building up of Christ's body, the church. In our congregation, we have focused on survival more than service. We look for what we can gain more than for what we can give. Re-establish your rule among us, we pray, and save us from ourselves. Amen.

(time for silent reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Rio Cordova

God has good news of freedom for oppressed and captive people, of comfort for the brokenhearted and mourning ones, of hope for those who are devastated. God offers salvation and welcomes us into a covenant relationship. God is faithful and will grant us peace.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY – The Townsend Family

CHILDRENS TIME – Richard Carter

SPECIAL MUSIC - "Song Without Words. Opus 109" - Mendelssohn
Joel Shaefer, cello and Adrienne Hickey, piano

SCRIPTURE – THE PROPHETS Isaiah 61:1-4 (NRSV) Bryanna & Donald Townsend

61 The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
² to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³ to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.
⁴ They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

*Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.***

SCRIPTURE - GOSPEL

Gospel of Luke 1:50-55 (NRSV)

⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors,

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Thanks be to God.

SERMON**“Brought Down and Lifted Up”**

Joy Church

RESPONSE**APOSTLES CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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

CLOSING HYMN**“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”**

#146

***Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;
there he lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place, can he be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race who have found his favor.***

**Angels sang about his birth; wisemen sought and found him;
heaven's star shone brightly forth, glory all around him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, heard the angels singing;
all the plains were lit that night; all the hills were ringing.**

**Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;
he is still the undefiled, but no more a stranger.
Son of God, of humble birth, beautiful the story;
praise his name in all the earth; hail the King of glory!**

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE ***"While We Are Waiting, Come"*** #92 (Verses 1 and 3)

***While we are waiting, come;
while we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,
while we are waiting come.***

***Come, Savior, quickly come;
come, Savior, quickly come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,
while we are waiting, come.***

POSTLUDE ***"O Sanctissima"*** - Traditional

Worship liturgy is adapted from prayers by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Participants:

The Reverend Renée Rico – Call to Worship
Joy Church – Preacher
Jesse & Rio Cordova, Bryanna & Donald Townsend – Worship Leader
Elders George & Ruth Van Otten and Elder George Wheat – Introit
Elder Richard Carter – Children's Sermon
Don, Sharon, Bryan, Eva, Rio, Jesse, Bryanna, Donald Townsend – Lighting Advent Candles
Adrienne Hickey and Joel Shaefer – Special Music
Janis Wheat – Piano and Organ
Elder Paul Hay – Video/Tech
Elder Judy Mayhew – Photo

ZOOM COFFEE HOUR *Happens at 11:15 a.m.*

Sign into ZOOM, and we'll place you in a small, Hosted group to have conversation with Faith folks to catch up and for conversation. Join Zoom Meeting :

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85471968282?pwd=WnNpVXM1QndXTWdNNXN1QzNtNXFTUT09>

Meeting ID: 854 7196 8282 Passcode: 603532

Dial by your location (call any number)

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