

Date: December 8, 2024
2nd Advent

Prayer of Preparation

Anne Osdieck

The word of God came to John.

In our chaos, Lord, oh, let us hear once again the Baptist crying out to us. "Prepare the way, make straight the paths. Every valley filled and hills made low. All flesh shall see the salvation of God." God of constant newness, carve fresh roads into our wilderness: into climate and racial emergency. Let our whole life point to Jesus. He is born here, is with us now. Jesus, please turn our deserts into gardens [where peace can bloom].

Gathering in the Presence of God

**Please stand as able, in body or in spirit*

Gathering Music

Open my Eyes That I May See

Clara Scott

Welcome

Prophetic Reading

Malachi 3:1-4

Liturgist

Source: New International Version

***Call to Worship** (responsively)

Liturgist

It's time to get ready for the journey.

Where are we going?

We are heading for the Manger and then to the Cross.

What will we find?

Today we will find peace, along with hope

We are ready. Let the journey begin.

**Lighting of the
Second Advent Candle**

The Candle of Peace (blue)

Linda and Jim Crowe
Cheryl Maginley

***Hymn**

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

GTG 82

***Confessing Our Separation from God** (unison) Liturgist

Silent Word, we wait for you. To be precise, we are impatient for you to come and set things right. We are insecure, fearful of crime in the streets, and anxious about ourselves. We confess that we even fool ourselves into believing that many of our rough ways and crooked paths are justified; please forgive our excuses and defiance. Come to us in the light of your Christ. Shine on those places we have hidden from you. Show us new ways to live. Sweep clean the rooms of our hearts, that Christ may find a peaceful home among us. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness** Rick Founds

Jesus, Draw Me Close

Jesus, draw me close; Closer, Lord, to You.

Let the world around me fade away.

Jesus, draw me close;

Closer, Lord, to You.

For I desire to worship and obey.

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

We Hear God's Word

Prayer of Illumination Liturgist

Gospel Lesson Luke 3:1-6 Pastor Eddie

Source: New International Version

Anthem *Prepare Ye!* Stephen Schwartz

When Wilt Thou Save the People

Soloist: Tina Marie Casamento

Reflection Repentance, Refining & Washing Business

We Respond to God's Word

***Affirmation of Faith** *I Believe in Jesus* Marc Nelson

**Prayers of the People of God –
Joys and Hopes**

The Act of Gratitude

Offertory: *Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice* GTG 163

***Doxology: An Expression of Faith to God** GTG 606

Tune: Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

***Prayer of Thanksgiving** (unison) Liturgist

God of mercy and grace, we pray that the gifts we offer this morning might be used to bring some compassion to the chaos that is our world. We pray also that they may produce a harvest of righteousness, sincerity and peace. We give these gifts in love, hoping they will heal some of the hurting; and as they do, make the crooked roads straight for the coming of Christ. Amen.

We Follow God's Word into the World

***Hymn** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* GTG 88

***Benediction**

Postlude

Next Week's Liturgist: Pam Jusino

WORSHIP TEAM

Pastor Eddie Jusino

Liturgist: Dave Norton

Ushers: Greg Estes and. Jim Miller

Music: David Libby

Soloist: Tina Marie Casamento

The Westminster Choir

A/V Tech: Melissa Schrock and Blue Jade

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 @ 10:00am – SUNDAY SERVICE – Please join us after the service in the Fellowship Hall for a light luncheon, hosted by the Deacons. Signup sheets are available in Fellowship Hall for the next several weeks.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 @ 11am-2pm – UMCL CHRISTMAS WRAPPING PARTY – Unique Minds Changing Lives has invited WPC to wrap gift donations for Lewes/Rehoboth families. What to bring – wrapping paper, bows, tape, scissors and a Joyous Spirit. UMCL is requesting a head-count, so confirm your attendance with Deb Norton (deb.norton@frontiernet.net).

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 @ 12-1pm - CAROLS AT THE REHOBOTH BEACH BANDSTAND - Join with neighbors of St. Edmond's to sing Christmas Carols at the Rehoboth bandstand. More info to come!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 WESTMINSTER'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS POTLUCK LUNCHEON after worship on Sunday, December 15. Fellowship committee will supply the ham and rolls, members are asked to bring a side dish, salad or dessert.

READ ALOUD DELAWARE (RAD)– Westminster is collecting new or gently used children’s books suitable for kindergarten to 5th grade. Our earlier donation of 30 used books to Stacy Penaranda, Sussex County Director of Read Aloud Delaware were gratefully received, but there is still a need and many more children who would benefit from this program with additional books. A donation basket will be in the narthex for any donations.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Kay Rotach recently suffered a fall. She was hospitalized and has been released for inpatient physical therapy and rehabilitation at P.A.M. in Millsboro. We envelop Kay and John in loving prayers for renewal and recovery. May Our Lord restore her to us very soon.

Sandra Hrin is having a problem with the cornea of her left eye. She is looking forward to a consultation with a specialist. May the Holy Spirit comfort Sandra and Bill, replacing anxiety with peace and assurance. We pray to our ever-faithful God for a prompt diagnosis and effective treatment.

Ailing

Sarah Altvater

Mable Granke

Bill Richmond (father of Laurie Kiddy)