



Nurture Good News **INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN**

THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

I am bringing you Good News of great joy for all the people.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ HOPE

December 1, 2024



Black Mountain Presbyterian Church

C.J. Briggs, Music Director
Julie Lehmann, Church Secretary

Wendy Lavey, Liturgist
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. ~ Romans 13:11

~ **GATHERING TOGETHER** ~

GATHERING MUSIC

PRELUDE

ADVENT BLESSING (*Luke 2:10 & Philippians 1:7, Kate Bowler*)

For see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people.
For all of us share in God's grace.

GATHERING **SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME** **GTG #102**
Ambrose of Milan (NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND) *Verse 1 x2*

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES Colin Barker

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.
As the Holy One has promised, in days to come...
the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.
In hope, let us walk in the light of the Holy One.

***HYMN** **JOYFUL IS THE DARK** **GTG #230**
 Brian Wren LINDER

POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

BLESSING OF THE PAJAMAS

CHILDREN OF GOD **THE BOY, THE MOLE, THE FOX AND THE HORSE**

LITANY OF SENDING

One: Let us send our kids with God's love.
All: May God be with you there.
Kids: May God be with you here.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O God, we confess our passiveness, our lack of attention in seeing the possibilities you open up for us to participate in your healing, restoring work in our world and in our own lives. We have surrendered to paralyzing fears. We have ignored and even resisted the stirring of your Spirit, nudging us out of self-absorption and inaction. Empower us by your Spirit to be attentive, discerning and ready partners in your universal restoration project. Amen. [*Silent Confession*]

***RESPONSE**

O LORD, HAVE MERCY

GTG #578

Guarani melody

ORÉ PORIAJÚ VEREKÓ

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Friends, believe the good news:

**in Jesus Christ we are forgiven and restored,
set on right paths of justice and peace.**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** (*from Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow*)

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

SPREAD THE WORD

OUTREACH TEAM

~ ***SHARING IN THE GOSPEL*** ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HEBREW BIBLE

ISAIAH 43:1-7, 15-21

Pew Bible p.631(OT)

GOSPEL LESSON

LUKE 1:5-19, 67-79

Pew Bible p.52(NT)

I have been sent to bring you this good news:

For all of us share in God's grace.

HYMN

HARK TO THE CALL!

[See Insert]

Dennis H. Piermont

TEMPESTA VINCITUR

SERMON

NURTURE HOPE

~ *TENDING THE GOOD NEWS* ~

***FOR HOPE** *(from Have a Beautiful, Terrible Advent)*

“And do his, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.” – Romans 13:11

There is a story you are telling, Lord, about the way that time itself bends toward you.

You are changing the world.

It was you who began that long descent from the heights of heaven as creator, as love, as a promise come down to us at Christmas.

You are an improbable blaze of glory that was one tiny infant, to become one of us in all human sense and feeling, and become for us our sure and certain hope that one day, all sadness and sorrow will flee away and death will be no more.

Come, Jesus.

We are ready to learn hope. We want to be told, once again, that before light was separated into darkness and mud shaped into life you’ve been waiting to say: “I am here.”

***INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

***RESPONSE**

GLORIA A DIOS
Peruvian melody

GTG #585
MACHU-PICHU

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

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.

~ EUCHARIST ~

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS

... joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.



COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

~ ***GOING FORTH TO NURTURE*** ~

***HYMN** LONGING FOR LIGHT, WE WAIT IN DARKNESS GTG #314
Bernadette Farrell CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

***BENEDICTION** *(from Luke 2)*

Do not be afraid; for see—

I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.

**They made known what had been told them,
and all who heard it were amazed.**

POSTLUDE

Written as a Christmas prayer and blessing of hope
for those suffering loss and grief from the storms and gales of this past year.

Hark to the Call!

TEMPESTAS VINCITUR

Music & Text: **Dennis H. Piermont 2024**

(st.1 after *Mark 1:1-2*; st. 2 after *Isaiah 40:3-5*;
st. 3 after *Isaiah 11:1-2,6*)

$\text{♩} = 108$

Hark to the call! From the be - gin - ing, send - ing a Her - ald,
As it was told: "Straight - en the crook - ed, build - ing a high - way,
From Jes - se's root comes forth a Sav - ior. God's ho - ly wis - dom
So, may our faith shine on this sea - son: reach - ing to o - thers

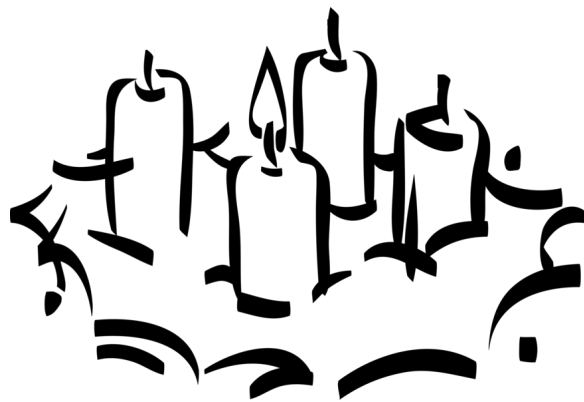
7

God brings new life. From dark wil - der - ness we're called to the
fit for the Lord! Lift each val - ley, make the hills plains of
rests on his brow. All God's creat - ures, as de - fens - es de -
worn down in woe. Nei - ther wa - ters nor the wind's fright - ful

12

Word, as we seek to pre - pare this new way for the Lord!
sod, as we wit - ness to - geth - er the Glo - ry of God!"
crease, move to - ge - ther to dwell in the warmth of God's
might can dim - in - ish the pro - mise and pledge of God's
peace.
light.

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*Next Week: Second Sunday of Advent (in the Chapel)
and Congregational Meeting following worship*

INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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