

The Lighting of the Advent Candle The Isaacs Family

Unison Prayer

God, in you we find true and everlasting peace. While we wait for peace to reign on the earth, teach us to hold the light of peace in our own hearts, to love our neighbors, and to follow the way of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

****Hymn 2 *“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”***

****Call to Confession**

****Prayer of Confession**

Timeless God, we confess that the future frightens us. While we have declared our trust in you we are still reticent about walking into the unknown. While we have declared our intent to be your faithful disciples, the demands of discipleship are not to our liking. Forgive us for our fearfulness and our apathy. Challenge us by your Spirit to be the people of God in this time and place. We ask these things, Merciful God, in your Holy name. Amen.

****Assurance of Forgiveness**

****Hymn *“Gloria Patri”***

***“Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.”***

****The Passing of the Peace of Christ**

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share this peace with one another.

Time with Our Youngest Saints

THE WORD

Unison Prayer for Understanding

Psalm 25:4-5

Holy One, through your Holy Spirit instruct us as your word is proclaimed. Illumine our hearts that we may hear your call to walk courageously in this world. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

The Reading from the Gospels

Luke 1:25-38

“In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, ‘Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.’ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.’ Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I am a virgin?’ The angel said to her, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.’ Then Mary said, ‘Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.’ Then the angel departed from her.

Liturgist: The gospel of the Lord for the people of God. **People: Thanks be to God.**

A Gift of Music

Sermon **“Speaking Up! Speaking Out!”**

****Hymn 22** **“Angels from the Realms of Glory”**

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer **(debts/debtors)**

“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.

Invitation to the Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

****Hymn** **“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

*“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above,
ye heav’ny host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!” Amen.*

****Prayer of Dedication**

Installation of the Class of 2027

THE SENDING

****Hymn 525**

“Here I Am, Lord”

****Charge and Blessing**

****Postlude**

*****please stand as you are able***



First Presbyterian Church of Lancaster

Order of Worship for

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2024

Liturgist: Ms. Addison Comley

Interim Organist—Mr. Jim Parrish

Ushers—Mrs. Amanda Marsee and Mr. Nick Marsee

Pastor—The Reverend Michael Denney

Please silence your phones prior to worship.

THE GATHERING

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

****Call to Worship**

Liturgist: Magnify the Lord, for God has done great things. God is mindful of the least and the last.

People: We praise the one who builds up the poor and casts down the powerful.

Liturgist: A child is coming who will turn the world upside down. Let us be like his mother and worship while we wait.

People: We worship God, who performs mighty deeds and gives voice to the outcast.

Liturgist: God fills the hungry with good things and sends the rich away empty.

People: We will wait and not be afraid.

****Prayer of the Day**