

PARK CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Restore Us

by Lisle Gwynn Garrity

First Sunday of Advent

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 29, 2020 10:30 AM

Chiming of the Hour

The ringing of the bell invites us to quiet our hearts & minds as we gather for worship.

Words of Welcome & Announcements

Welcome to worship at Park Central Presbyterian Church! May you experience God's grace and love within the worship service.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Glenn Armstrong, *guest organist*
Timothy Albrecht

CALL TO WORSHIP

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel.
Stir up your might and come to save us!
Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
Let your hand be upon us that we may be made strong for yourself.
Then we will never turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call on your name.
Let us worship God!

HYMN 2 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

*Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.*

*Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child, and yet a King.
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God,

Over and over again in scripture, we hear your dreams for the world.

We hear your dream for peace and reconciliation.

We hear your dream for harmony and togetherness.

We hear your dream for community and hope.

We hear your dreams, and yet we are often afraid to open our eyes.

**We are too certain of the darkness in this world
and are not sure that we can trust your dreams.**

We put them off for another time

and try to protect our lives rather than living in obedience.

Forgive us, we pray.

Wake us up in this holy season.

Come to us again, fill our hearts with your dreams,

and kindle a hope that will burn through the darkest times.

Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 64:1-9

- ¹ O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
² as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
³ When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴ From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for you.
⁵ You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
⁶ We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
⁷ There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
⁸ Yet, O God, you are our Creator;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
⁹ Do not be exceedingly angry, O God,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL MEDITATION
I Wonder as I Wander

Kent Bradshaw, *baritone*
Appalachian Carol
arr. John Jacob Niles

*I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
How Jesus our Savior did come for to die
For poor on 'ry people like you and like I...
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.*

*When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall,
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall.
And the promise of ages it then did recall.*

*If Jesus had wanted for any woe thing,
A star in the sky or a bird on the wing,
Or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing,
He surely could have it, 'cause He was the King.*

*I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
How Jesus our Savior did come for to die
For poor on 'ry people like you and like I...
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.*

THE SECOND LESSON

Mark 13:24-37

²⁴ “But in those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
²⁵ and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶ Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷ Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸ “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰ Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³² “But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴ It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵ Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶ or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷ And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

Leader: This is the word of God.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

J. Andrew McTyre

SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SHARING OUR GIFTS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN 14 Savior of the Nations, Come NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

*Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin's Son, make here Your home.
Marvel now, O heaven and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.*

*From the Godhead forth you came,
And return unto the same,
Captive leading death and hell,
High the song of triumph swell!*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE
Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 599

Glenn Armstrong, *guest organist*
J. S. Bach

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Liturgist.....Susan Stinson
SoloistKent Bradshaw

The theme for our Advent worship and reflections is *Those Who Dream*. The theme draws on Psalm 126: “When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.” What does it look like to live as those who dream? The prophets, the psalmists, John the Baptist, Mary, Elizabeth, Joseph, Simeon, Anna, the shepherds and the Magi – they were all dreamers. They received, discovered, and responded to God’s dreams for the world. In Advent, we step into the mystery and awe of God’s dreams and pray they shape our reality.

Our resources for the Advent season come from A Sanctified Art, including the artwork for the bulletin and adapted portions of today’s liturgy.

Pastor.....J. Andrew McTyre
Director of Music.....Robert Allen
Parish Associate for Christian Education.....Sarah McTyre
Parish Associate..... Brigid Boyle
Office Administrator.....Briana Vaught
Building Manager.....Kenneth Pfeffer
Nursery Care..... Yusy Cruz & Elaine Ramos Cruz

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