Christ UMC Worship 12.3.2023 2nd Sunday of Advent "Crying Out for Peace"

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

OPENING MUSIC Dr. Johnathan Vest

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Children of God, "Look, your savior comes."

People: Come, Lord Jesus, and give us peace.

**OPENING SONG

211 (Red hymnal)

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (1,2,5,7)

Congregation and Worship Band

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

2 O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh; to us the path of knowledge show and show us in her ways to go. Refrain

5 O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home. The captives from their prison free, and conquer death's deep misery. Refrain

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind. From dust thou brought us forth to life; deliver us from earthly strife. Refrain

Text: 9th century Latin (public domain)

**OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God,
today we pray for peace:
 in our world
 in war-torn regions
 in our country
 in our church
 in our families
 and within ourselves.
May your peace reign in us,
and may it shine from us
as a light to all the world. Amen.

ACT OF PRAISE

"Lo, How A Rose/The Rose"

Worship Band

arr. Johnson

"Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming" by Michael Praetorius, arranged by Craig Hella Johnson. © 2007 G. Schirmer, Inc. (ASCAP). Text: public domain. "The Rose," words and music by Amanda McBroom . © 1977 (renewed) Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp. and Third Story Music, Inc. This arrangement © 2007 Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp. and Third Story Music, Inc. CCS #10398

GOD SPEAKS THE WORD TO US

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the scriptures are read and your word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 40:1-11 Matthew Hassell
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Michelle Lomicka

SCRIPTURE Mark 1:1-8 Samantha Hassell

SERMON Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERING

"We Will Rejoice in Peace"

Worship Band

Bjorlin|Miller

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(Parents of small children are asked to bring them back to their seats at this time.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Aimee Cox

INVITATION

CONFESSION 8 (red hymnal)

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will,

we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against your love,

we have not loved our neighbors,

and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

2257 (Black hymnal)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day when justice shall roll down like waters

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, whom you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations. You scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts and have mercy on those who fear you from generation to generation. You put down the mighty from their thrones and exalt those of low degree.

You fill the hungry with good things, and the rich you send empty away. Your own Son came among us as a servant to be Emmanuel, your presence with us. He humbled himself in obedience to your will and freely accepted death on a cross. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen, amen, amen. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

11 (Red hymnal)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE ARE SENT TO BE GOD'S PEOPLE IN THE WORLD

*CLOSING SONG

"We Will Rejoice in Peace" Worship Band and Congregation

Bjorlin|Miller

We will rejoice in peace, lift up our voice in peace, make every choice in peace, we will uphold your world in peace. We will delight in peace, share and invite in peace, till all unite in peace, we will enfold your world in peace.

We will repent in peace, raise our lament in peace, dare to dissent in peace, we will uphold your world in peace. We will persist in peace, choose to resist in peace, and coexist in peace, we will enfold your world in peace.

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DISMISSAL Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes

BLESSING SONG "The Lord Bless and Keep You" Strathdee

The Lord bless and keep you,
the Lord make his face to shine on you,
and be gracious, gracious.
The Lord bless and keep you,
the Lord lift his countenance on you
and give peace, give you peace.
Shalom, shalom.

Music by Jim Strathdee. © 1981 Desert Flower Music. OneLicense.net #A-734439.

CLOSING MUSIC Dr. Johnathan Vest

Today's Communion Rail benefits our November/December Ministry Focus partner, Last Minute Toy Store. Thank you for your support!

*Please stand in body or spirit

Prayer List

New Prayer Concerns

Bill Greer and Family following the death of his uncle, Willie Chris Moise and Family following the death of his wife, Allison Scott Heard and Family following the death of his father Harrison and Stephanie Free Jason Thomas

Merry Carol Starr

Peace in Sierra Leone

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Barb Auten and Family following
the death of her sister, Carolyn Getty
Abby Ayers
Flora Benker
Hugh Charlton
Karen Chin
Chad Collings

Robert and Karlyn Crice Doug Davis Delaney Duncan Charlotte Felner Linda Fellers Charlotte Felmer Brent Greene

Christina Hayes

Lance Corporal Mason Henry

Gary High Iceland

Alan Hall

Jim Ingmire & Family following the death of his cousin, Peggy Addington

Allen Johnston John and Nicki Shealand Lambert Kalista Mefford Gary Minor

Carrie Moss and Family

Sue Mueller Sam Murillo Chuck Neighbors

Peace in the Middle East

Judson Randolph
Room in the Inn
Becky Roberston
Rose Family
Amy Saffell
Janie Trussel
Julie Tuckes
Ukraine
John Wigant
Rex Williams
Alan Williams

Teri Williams Norma Williams Terri Wildman

Welcome to our visitors and guests. We're glad you're here! We invite you to stop by the Welcome Center for a special gift.

Upcoming Events at Christ UMC

(additional info can be found in the newsletter)

- Wednesday Night Supper 12/6: Grilled Chicken, Grilled Vegetables, Roasted Potatoes by Taziki's. Register by 12/4.
- " Stock the GraceWorks Manger volunteer center with snacks! Donations can be left in the collection bin in the Narthex
- " **Holiday Outreach Opportunities** at GraceWorks and Last Minute Toy Store additional details and sign up information in the Narthex and in the newsletter.
- The United Women in Faith invite all to attend Advent Cocoa & Cookies with Rev. Janet Wolf Sunday, December 3rd at 2pm in the Small Sanctuary
- " **Prison Ministry Christmas Cards of Encouragement** can be picked up Sunday, December 3rd or 10th in the Narthex. Contact Jo High with questions.
- " **Prayerful Hands Meeting Sunday, December 10th** after worship in the library. All are welcome. Contact Cheryl Stanley.
- "Sunday Brunch Sunday, December 17th at 9:15am (before Lessons & Carols) Please plan to join us in the Fellowship Hall and bring a dish to share!
- " Ladies Night Out Tuesday, December 19th at 5:30pm at Franklin Chop House. All ladies are welcome. RSVP to Elizabeth Bussey by December 18th.

We encourage you to take your printed worship order with you or to place them in the recycle baskets at the sanctuary exits.

Sunday Worship Attendance

Scan this QR code to register your attendance.

Thank you for joining us today!

