

Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church



*Welcome to Worship at
Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church!*

*Our faith community extends a warm welcome to
all worshipping with us today and hopes that you
will return often.*

Welcoming All, Serving Christ, Transforming Lives

The Service for the Lord's Day;
First Sunday of Advent; November 29, 2020

Our vocalist today is Bob Beilfus.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS this Sunday are given by Phyllis & Bob Beilfus to the glory of God in loving memory of their parents, Frances & Jack Wood and Florence & Lester Beilfus.

CHIMING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME

Rev. Nancy Dawson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Nancy Dawson

PASSING OF THE PEACE

As you are seated, the right side of the sanctuary will turn to the left side of the sanctuary and share the ancient words of the church: *"the peace of Christ be with you "*

Then the left side of the sanctuary will turn while seated and respond: *"And also with you."*

PRELUDE

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

arr. Johnson

LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH

Noah DeCarmo

DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Gail Midkiff, Liturgist

L: The God of hope calls us to this season of anticipation

P: The God of hope calls us to this time of worship.

L: Here we will prepare to walk in God's path.

P: Let us watch for the One who makes all things new.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Gail Midkiff, Liturgist

Faithful God, your promises stand unshaken through all generations. Renew us in hope that we may be awake and alert as we watch for the glorious return of Jesus Christ, our judge and Savior who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

HYMN #88 vs 1, 4, 5, 7

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

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! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

4 O come, O root of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save
and give them victory o'er the grave.

5 O come, O Key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. [Refrain]

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace. [Refrain]

CALL TO CONFESSION

Gail Midkiff, Liturgist

We have all sinned, not one of us is clean; but there is hope and mercy for those who call on the name of the Lord. God of the past, forgive us our sins again you and each other. God of the present strengthen us against the temptations and doubt before us. God of the future prepare our hearts for your coming again that you may be glorified. Let us pray together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gail Midkiff, Liturgist

God of forgiveness and mercy, in the busyness of this season we confess that we allow ourselves to turn from you. We feel anxious about all that we have to get done, and yet neglect to remain watchful and alert for your return. We worry and fret over the things and events of this world and forget that in you alone is our hope and salvation. Forgive us, O God, and give us the confidence to do your will. AMEN

(Please take a moment of silence for personal confession and reflection.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Gail Midkiff, Liturgist

Before time began, God planned to send Christ to earth to take our sins upon himself and overcome the power of evil and death. As we prepare for the birth of your Son let us with hope look to his gift of eternal life knowing our relationship with you is healed and whole once again. Friends, in Christ, you are forgiven. Amen

Choral Response Hymn #93 vs. 3

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Redeemer, come!

I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.

Let me thy inner presence feel;

thy grace and love in me reveal.

DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 64: 1-9

Jim Glass, Lector

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence 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! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. 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 him. 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. 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. 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. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

ANTHEM

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Hymn #87

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 13:24-37

Steve Hubbard

‘But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. 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. ‘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. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ‘But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. 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. 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, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’

SERMON

The Coming of Hope

Steve Hubbard

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Apostle’s Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of
God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick
and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN #82

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

1 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.

2 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.

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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

Holy and gracious Lord, you pour out your blessings upon us and call us to be a blessing to others. You command us to use the resources you have given us to share the hope of your saving grace. We give in the name of the One whose coming we seek anew in this Advent Season. Amen

HYMN #104

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

1 O Lord, how shall I meet you,
how welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet you,
my hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy,
a lamp within my breast,
to do in spirit lowly
all that may please you best.
2 Love caused your incarnation;
love brought you down to me;
your thirst for my salvation
procured my liberty.

O love beyond all telling,
that led you to embrace
in love, all loves excelling,
our lost and fallen race.
3 You come, O Lord, with gladness,
in mercy and goodwill,
to bring an end to sadness
and bid our fears be still.
In patient expectation
we live for that great day
when your renewed creation
your glory shall display.

BENEDICTION

Nancy Dawson

POSTLUDE

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

arr. Balcombe