

CELEBRATING

Advent



The Coming Of The

MESSIAH

ADVENT TWO: PEACE

December 6, 2020

10:00 a.m.



**MEDIA
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

OUR MISSION AND VISION

Our Mission is to love God and love our neighbor.



Our Vision is to be a Christian Community that worships together, serves together, and grows together in faith.

VISITING TODAY?

*If this is your first time worshipping with us,
we hope you will feel welcome.*

*If you have questions, please don't hesitate
to reach out to us by phone or email. We also invite you to visit
our website at www.mediapresbyterian.org*

stephen
MINISTRY.

Christ Caring for People Through People
stephenministry@mediapresbyterian.org



**All who can do so comfortably are invited to stand*

Welcome

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 6, 2020

GATHERING

Prelude

Sean Michael McDonald, Organist

Welcome and Announcements

*** Sharing the Joy of Our Faith** *(We encourage you to greet others and receive greetings while remaining in your pews. We encourage you to wave, offer the peace sign, clap your hands, tap your feet, whichever way you choose - we are blessed to be together to worship while remaining a safe physical distance apart. If you are worshipping virtually, we invite you to extend greetings using the chat feature.)*

Lighting of the Advent Candles

We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;

Psalm 96

**let all creation sing for joy
at the coming of the Lord.**

The Lord of hosts is coming to restore us;

Psalm 80

God's face will shine, and we will be saved.

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;

Psalm 85

righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

Light dawns for the righteous, and joy to the upright in heart.

Psalm 97

Rejoice in the Lord! Give thanks to God's holy name.

Song

Prepare Ye the Way

Call to Worship: (inspired by Matthew 3:1-12, Mark 1:3, Isaiah 40:3)

Liturgist: We come to prepare the way;

People: The way for Christ –

Liturgist: the hope of Christ, the peace of Christ –

**People: to enter our world,
to enter our hearts.**



Liturgist: We cry out together in the wilderness:

People: The kingdom of heaven has come near.

Liturgist: We come to be part of the light—

People: the light that shines in the darkness.

Opening Hymn/Song *Savior of the Nations, Come*

Children's Moment

Blessing of the Children (All)

Dear God, bless your children here, in our neighborhood and in our ministries throughout the coming week. Show them your goodness. Give them your peace for when they are afraid. Teach them to hear your voice. And be with us now and throughout this week, as we seek to worship you. Amen.

Call to Confession (1 John 1:8-9)

Liturgist: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(a time of honesty before God in silent confession)

Prayer of Confession

Holy and loving God,
we have dwelt in darkness
and preferred it to the light;
we have been proud of our accomplishments
and despaired over our shortcomings.
Smooth down the mountains of our pride,
and lift up the valleys of our doubts.
Open a path in the wilderness of our lives
that we might find our way to you again.

Refine us and prepare us once again
for life in your kingdom.

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (from Psalm 91: 14-16)

Liturgist: Those who love me, I will deliver, says the Lord;
I will protect those who know my name.
When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,
I will rescue them and honor them,
With long life I will satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.

Receive the good news of the gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

EQUIPPING

THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 40: 1-11

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3: 8-15a

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Reading: Mark 1: 1-8

Sermon: *“Prepare the way of the Lord”*
Rev. Jonathan Fettig

RESPONSE

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Apostles' Creed

Please join me in the affirmation of faith, the Apostles Creed.

Brothers and sisters what do you believe?

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 Spirit, 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 Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Invitation to Stewardship

At this time we are invited to join God in generosity. One of the most famous verses in the Bible, John 3:16 states, "for God so loved the world that He gave His Son. So that whoever believes in Him might not perish but that they might have eternal life." We invite you to give, right now. You can navigate to the MPC website and click the GIVE ONLINE button in the top right corner. You can also mail a check or drop off a check in the church mailbox. If you are unable to give financially, you are still invited to Join Jesus in generosity. You may give your heart, you may give your life, you may give your service. If you would like to offer your gifts through the ministry of the church, please reach out to Pastor Jonathan or Pastor Rose. Freely you have received, freely give.

Offering Song *Featuring Martha Harriç*

* Prayer of Dedication

CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

After the Words of Institution, we invite you to celebrate Communion using your bread and your juice. If you are in the sanctuary, you will be invited to take a single-serve communion cup. Remove the first wrapper for the wafer, the second for the grape juice.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The prayer continues...

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.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Communion/ Meditation

Sean Michael McDonald, Organ

Prayer of Affirmation

***Closing Hymn/Song**

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

CHARGE AND BLESSING

***Postlude**

Sean Michael McDonald, Organ

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Leading worship this morning...

Rev. Jonathan Fettig, *Senior Pastor*

Rev. Rose Sparrow, *Interim Parish Associate*

Sebastian Carpenter, *Director of Contemporary Music and Worship, Interim Director of Youth Ministries*

Elder Dee Casner, *Worship Leader*

Lisa VanHeldorf, *Choir Director*

Sean Michael McDonald, *Organist*

Small Group Questions

Mark 1: 1-8

Questions to ponder as we get to know a little about each other:

- When the mail comes, what do you open and read first?
- What is the strangest thing you have ever eaten?

Questions to help us dig into the Scripture:

- What do the contexts of the quotes (Mal 3:1; Isa 40:3) teach about the “coming one”?
- Why is John’s ministry so popular (vv. 4-5)?
- Given John’s message (vv. 7-8), what type of person is the crowd anticipating (see Isa 32:15-20)?
- What do you think the dove and voice (vv. 10-11) meant to Jesus as he came out of the water? As he entered the desert? During his temptations? How would all this prepare him?

Questions to help us apply the Scripture to our own life, to take personal inventory and share with the group what you are going to do as a result:

- What from your life illustrates what it means to repent?
- John the Baptist prepared “the way for the Lord.” Who prepared the way for the Lord in your life?
- As Jesus came out of the water as he was being baptized, what did the voice from heaven say? What would you like to hear God say to you?
- What do you think would happen if you went away by yourself for 40 days to face your particular temptations?