

December 10, 2017

Service of the Word & Sacrament

The 2nd Sunday of Advent

Welcome! It's a joy to worship with you today.

Caring volunteers and paid staff tend our nursery/childcare room during worship. Your little one is welcome there any time. Sunday School begins at 10:00 am today.

Prelude *Christmas Lullaby* by Max Reger

Catherine York, Organist

Welcome

The Rev. Jill H. Small

Introit

Lighting of the Advent Candles and Invocation (responsive)

The Hricz Family

One: Come, Beloved Community, and imagine peace!

ALL: We gather to listen for God's word, to know the Spirit's peace, and to feast at the Christ's table.

One: We relight the candle of Hope.

ALL: May hope live in our hearts.

One: Today, we light the candle of Peace.

ALL: God's peace calls us to listen, to learn, and to live with respect for one another.

One: Join us in praying:

ALL: Creating and sustaining God, in your presence there is hope and peace. Be with us now and move among us always. Surprise us and inspire us to imagine peace. Hear our prayer. Amen.

* **Opening Hymn**

Comfort, Comfort O My People

#101 NCH

(*Congregation may stand)

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Our Church Family Prays

Invitation to Offering *Gifts of time, talent, and treasure make possible the mission and ministry we share. You're welcome to use a pew card to note online giving and gifts of service. Thank you.*

Offertory

* **Doxology** (#780 NCH)

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Spirit of the Living God, may we become instruments of your peace and compassion. Grant us wisdom, vision, and courage so that our gifts bring blessing to those who offer them and to those who receive them. In the name of the Christ at whose table we feast, amen and amen.

Texts for the Day

Hebrew Scripture

Isaiah 40:1-8

Christian Scripture

Mark 1:1-8

Sermon

“Imagine Peace”

Anthem “An Advent Invitation” by Williams/Nolan

Chancel Choir

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

There is a place for you at this table; you are welcome here.

Invitation

One: John the Baptizer called people to reflect, to repent, and to prepare for God’s reign. May we hear his call now so that we too are ready for God who comes to us.

All: It is not easy to wait for you, gracious God. We turn to you, asking to be open to your Spirit so that we may share your peace.

One: We are the whole people of God: remembered, renewed, redeemed.

All: Amen.

The Greeting of Peace

The Great Thanksgiving

One: God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

One: Blessed are you Holy God, with all who know you and all who love you, we join the endless refrain:

ALL: Holy, holy, holy, God of love and majesty, the whole universe sings of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God: hosanna in the highest!

Words of Institution & Consecration of the Elements

Sharing of the Bread & the Cup (Bread is gluten-free; the cup contains grape juice.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

One: Let us give thanks to God in union with the faithful everywhere.

ALL: We thank you, God, for life in the Spirit of the living Christ; for gladness in this bread and cup; for love that cannot die; for peace that the world cannot give nor take away; for the glory of creation; and for the mission of justice that we can make our own. Fill us with the gifts of this sacrament: oneness of heart, love and forgiveness offered and accepted, the will to serve and the willingness to grow. In your holy name we pray: Amen.

* Closing Hymn

Let There Be Peace on Earth

(insert)

Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude *Patapan* - Traditional Burgundian Tune

***As our worship together ends, our true service begins.
May you be blessed this week and may you be a blessing to others.***

After worship, all are welcome to gather for refreshments and conversation in Fellowship Hall, hosted by Bryn Burns and Pam Monroe.

Coffee/tea is available before worship in the Education Wing. Come, enjoy!

Thank you to our Greeters today: Gary Cilley, Laura Sevigny, Roger Sevigny, and Doug Terrill; and to today's Communion Servers: Mandy Armstrong, Beryl Harper, George Hilton, Darien Lauten, Dennis Mathews, Martin Rumscheidt, and Sooty Tanguay.

Thank you to our Sound Engineers John Moore, Grant Armstrong, Russell Mason, and Fisayo Dada for running our sound system each Sunday morning.

For information about the Community Church of Durham United Church of Christ, or if you have a question or comment to share, please speak with a greeter or with Pastor Jill Small.



Reminder: Please leave the upper parking lot free for those who have difficulty walking. Thank you.

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF DURHAM
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

An open and affirming congregation where all are welcome.



THE REV. JILL H. SMALL, INTERIM PASTOR
KRISTIN FORSELIUS, EDUCATION & FAITH FORMATION DIRECTOR
DAVID ERVIN, MUSIC DIRECTOR
CATHERINE YORK, ORGANIST

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