

Service of the Word and Sacrament

December 9, 2018

The Second Sunday of Advent

Welcome! It's a joy to worship with you today. Larger print bulletins & personal hearing amplifiers are available in the Narthex (Main Street entry).

Caring volunteers and paid staff tend our nursery/childcare rooms during worship. Little ones are welcome there any time. Today, children begin worship in Sunday School and return for Communion.

Prelude *Andante Moderato* from "Romance Sans Paroles" Catherine York, Organist
Op. 17 No. 3 by Gabriel Fauré

Welcome The Rev. Jill H. Small

The Greeting of Peace *You are invited to greet those near you, sharing the peace of God.*

Introit "The Cuckoo Carol", traditional Czech Carol arr. by E. Walters Alleluia Choir

Lighting of the Advent Candle Asa and Eli Buchakjian-Tweedy

Call to Worship (responsive) Mandy Armstrong, pulpit assistant

One: Today is the Second Sunday of Advent - the Sunday of Peace.

ALL: Peace is found when God's Spirit fills our lives.

One: The prophets remind us that to receive peace we must be prepared for it.

ALL: Advent guides us to prepare the way for the Prince of Peace.

One: We relight the candle of hope to remind us that hope shines in the darkness. We light the candle of peace to remind us that Jesus the Christ is the Prince of Peace. Let's pray together.

ALL: O God of Peace, Emmanuel, send your light into our lives. May we know the inner peace that makes us one with you and with each other. We pray in your Name. Amen.

* **Opening Hymn** *The Baptist Shouts on Jordan's Shore (verses 1&2)* # 115 NCH
(*Standing in body or in spirit)

Invocation (unison)

O Creating, Redeeming, Sustaining Spirit, fill this time and place with your presence and your peace as we worship you today. Hear our prayer. Amen.

Anthem *Lo! How A Rose E'er Blooming* Chancel Choir

Sharing Joys and Concerns Church Family Prays

The Prayer of Jesus/Lord's Prayer

Our Creator/Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy reign/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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the reign/kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Invitation to Offering Gifts of time, talent, and treasure make the mission and ministry we share possible. You're welcome note acts of caring with pew cards. Thank you.

Offertory

* **Doxology** (#780 NCH)

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Eternal One, you are the source of all peace. Grant us this gift as we prepare to welcome you again into our hearts and lives. May the example of Jesus move us to become blessings to one another. Whoever we are, wherever we are, we are yours and in your Name we pray. Amen.

Texts for the Day

Hebrew Scripture: Malachi 3:1-4

Christian Scripture: Luke 3:1-6

Sermon

The Messenger

* Hymn

The Baptist Shouts on Jordan's Shore (verses 3&4)

115 NCH

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

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

Invitation

One: The whole of creation is God's gift to us.

ALL: We are called to care for all that God created: lands, seas, skies, and creatures.

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

ALL: May we be at peace with one another.

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 & 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, 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

There is a gluten-free, peanut-free option in the small dish on each plate. The cups contain 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** *The Baptist Shouts on Jordan's Shore (verses 5&6)* # 115 NCH

Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude

Raise the Song On High by Steven Scott

As our worship together ends, our true service begins.

After worship, all are welcome to gather for conversation and refreshments in Fellowship Hall. Thanks to greeters Don Smith, Steve Holmgren, and Chris Holmgren; John Moore, Grant Armstrong, Russell Mason, Liam Ashburner, and Emerson Moore for running our sound system, to pulpit assistant, Mandy Armstrong, and to our communion servers.

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF DURHAM, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

An open and affirming congregation where all are welcome.



A D V E N T : P E A C E

The Rev. Jill H. Small, Interim Pastor

Kristin Forselius, Education & Faith Formation Director

David Ervin, Music Director

Catherine York, Organist

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