



*An Open & Affirming, Creation Justice
Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

5 December 2021 – 10:30 AM

Second Sunday of Advent

***indicates the congregation is invited to stand.
Please feel free to remain seated if you prefer.**

PRELUDE	<i>Something's Coming</i> Lori Rivera, vocals • Art Alm, piano	Bernstein/Sondheim
WELCOME		The Rev. David Pattee, pastor
INTROIT	O come, O Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh; To us the path of knowledge show, and help us in that way to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.	VENI EMMANUEL
LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE		River, Märta and Lisa
*HYMN	Days are waning in December Through the night our candles burn Pause to pray and to remember Knowing light will soon return See it shine, see it shine...	Words & Music by Art Alm Looking out at the vast darkness Read the message of the sky Billions shining out their witness Beauty no one can deny See it shine, see it shine...
	Light one candle for our comfort Light one more for harmony Light a third for new beginnings Four for miracles to be See them shine, see them shine...	
*PRAYER IN THE SPIRIT OF JESUS	Earth-Maker, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Source of all that is and all that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God in whom is Heaven: May the hallowing of your name echo through the universe. May your Heavenly will be done by all creatures great and small. And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need this day, feed us. For the hurt we inflict on one another, forgive us. Through times of temptation, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love.	
*GLORIA	Glo---ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De-o, Glo----ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De-o.	GLORIA
SCRIPTURE	<i>Malachi 3:1-2</i> See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?	The Rev. Beverley Brook
ANTHEM	<i>Prepare Ye</i>	Stephen Schwartz

GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-6

Susie Land, liturgist

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." '

SERMON

Preparing the Way

Pastor Dave

MEDITATION

Songs & Prayers from Taizé

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

OFFERTORY

Invitation

www.PeaceUnited.org/Giving

Rev. Bev

Offertory Music

My Soul in Stillness Waits

Marty Haugen

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Bill Walton, moderator

Yemi Akintunde, Matthew Elliott, Julie DuClos, Lynette DuClos Adelson,

*Roger Bowers, Pat Lindstrom, Philip Spralding

*COVENANT

We covenant with God and with each other:

to walk together in all God's ways as the Holy is revealed to us;

to give ourselves freely and without reserve to Jesus' ministry in this church;

to celebrate through worship God's amazing gifts of unity and diversity;

to take up Christ's mission around the world, striving for justice and peace;

to care for the earth and all her creatures, reconciling ourselves to them in love;

for God gives immeasurable grace into all life and every life. Amen.

*GREETING OF PEACE

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*HYMN

SCARLET RIBBONS

Who would think that what was needed to transform and save the earth

Might not be a plan or army proud in purpose, proved in worth?

Who would think, despite derision, that a child should lead the way?

God surprises earth with heaven, coming here on Christmas Day.

Centuries of skill and science span the past from which we move,

Yet experience questions whether with such progress we improve.

In our search for sense and meaning, lest our hopes and humor fray,

God surprises earth with heaven, coming here on Christmas Day.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Lo, How a Rose

15th Century German Traditional