

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 20, 2020

PRELUDE *Now Come, Savior of the Nations, BWV 211* Bach (1685-1750)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: As we prepare to celebrate Jesus birth, fill us with love for the world, that we might share ourselves until all know the love that sent to us your son, our Savior.

**People: Come Lord Jesus !**

Leader: Let us worship God.

OPENING HYMN *Savior of the Nations, Come!* Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

Savior of the nations, come, Virgin's Son, make here thy home!  
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.

Praise we sing to Christ the Lord, virgin's son, incarnate word!  
To the holy Trinity praise we sing eternally.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Love, you shower gifts on Your people, and forgive them again and again; we keep accounts, seeking to settle old scores. Your way is peace, sending Christ as a sign of reconciliation and hope; we prefer to seek advantage and see reconciliation as weakness. You send Your Spirit into our midst to strengthen and renew us; e share our anxiety with those around us, until all are ill at ease. Forgive us, Lord, this and all our sin. Free us, that we may be renewed to serve your people with goodwill. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 89:1-4,19-26

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING John 1: 1-5

SERMON *Beginning again.* Rev. Patrick Pettit

ANTHEM

*A Christmas Canon*  
(Canon in D with The First Noel) arr. Janet Witman  
Shenandoah Valley Harpers:  
Joyce Brunk, Cathy Cunningham, Ann Daggett and Linda Morrison

CLOSING HYMN *Of the Father's Love Begotten* Divinum mysterium

Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega, He the Source, the Ending He,  
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him; angel hosts, His praises sing:  
All powers, bow before Him and extol our God and King;  
Let no tongue on earth be silent, ev'ry voice in concert ring,  
Evermore and evermore!

Christ, to Thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,  
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be,  
Honor, glory, and dominion and eternal victory,  
Evermore and evermore!

POSTLUDE Reprise: *Divinum mysterium*

This week's anthem is provided by the Shenandoah Valley Harpers. We are thankful for Cathy Cunningham's membership in this fine ensemble based in Harrisonburg, which is graciously allowing First Pres to include their recording of *A Christmas Canon* in this week's service.

### **Prayers for Health and Other Concerns:**

The Legacy: Eloise Morris

Shenandoah Nursing Home: Rubye Schwab

Summit Square: Lillian Hryshkanych

Home: Dick Huff, Nancy Garber, Mary Ultee, Edie Lawrence, Steve Doherty, Nancy Snyder, Kathy Brown

Friends and Family: Andy & Jean Robeson, Wanda Braden, Lucy Colbert, Charlie Fairchilds (Cunninghams), Steve Stevens, Paul Jones, George & Alice Morris (Jen Jones), Danny Smith (Nancy Hypes), Jennifer & Charlotte Sergeant (Kathy Brown), Emily Bardeen (Sandi Henderson), Kathy Doyle (Cindy & Rodger Doyle), Bill Metzel (Joyce Tipton), Tony Poplin, Jerry Hughes, Paul Watts (Colleen Cash), Helen Schurz (Holly Bennett), Shae Blackwell and Family (Preschool), Carol Buckalew (Jen Jones), Col. Stuart Roberts ( Mark Henderson), Lawrence Maddox

Military: Jeremiah Henderson, Carson Craig

Missionaries: Elmarie & Scott Parker, PC (USA) Regional Liaisons to Iraq, Syria & Lebanon

### **Presbyterian Women**

Please let the office or Ruth Kelley (540-448-1081) know if you would be interested in meeting on Zoom. All you need is a computer or tablet with good internet.

We can get you hooked up!!