Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020

**PRELUDE** 

Duet

Beethoven (1770-1827)

Celia Daggy, viola; David Kidd, trombone

#### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# LIGHTING OF THE SECOND CANDLE

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Gracious God, help us remember that lasting peace is found only in you.

People: Come Lord Jesus!

## **OPENING HYMN**

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Genevan 42

"Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!" So says our God.

"Comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning under sorrow's load.

To My people now proclaim that My pardon waits for them!

Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over."

For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,

Calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here.

O, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;

Let the valleys rise in meeting, and the hills bow down in greeting.

Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain.

Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign.

For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad;

And all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you judge Your People with righteousness; we judge our neighbors with our own prejudice and insecurity. Your Son defended the cause of the poor, but our greed leaves many wanting. He came to bring redemption and deliverance, but we stand in the way of its being received. Forgive us, Lord, this and all our sin. Remind us of Your eternal rule, that we might bow down before You and serve You with joy and gratitude. Amen

#### SILENT PRAYER

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:1-8

SERMON

By water and the Spirit.

Rev. Patrick Pettit

**ANTHEM** 

Sonata no. 30 in E, Op. 109: III

Beethoven

Charles Simpkins, piano

#### THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

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.

Communion of the People Prayer after Communion

CLOSING HYMN

Prepare the Way, O Zion

Bereden väg för Herran

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near! Let every hill and valley a level way appear.

Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.

O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion; He comes from heaven above.

His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth and love.

Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.

O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace,

And tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.

All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing.

O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

#### **CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Lord Jesus Christ, God's Only Begotten Son, BWV 601

Bach (1685-1750)

The prelude and the anthem this week are offered to the glory of God and in honor of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Ludwig van Beethoven. First Presbyterian Church joins the worldwide birthday celebration of the composer, born during the season of Advent, on 16 December 1770 in Bonn, Germany. The pieces span his career, from the duet, written in 1796, to the piano sonata, composed in 1820.

# Prayers for Health and Other Concerns:

The Legacy: Eloise Morris

<u>Augusta Nursing & Rehab:</u> Mary Ann Maupin <u>Shenandoah Nursing Home</u>: Rubye Schwab

Summit Square: Lillian Hryshkanych

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