



Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

November 29, 2020

First Sunday of Advent

~THE PEOPLE GATHER~

GATHERING MUSIC

Mindy Sampson

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

Rich Holmes

One: We are preparing ourselves for the days when the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

***All: God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come. Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

Call to Worship

from Psalm 80

Rich Holmes

One: Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you who are enthroned upon the cherubim.

All: O Lord of hosts, how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

One: You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

All: Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved.

Opening Hymn

Elliot Smith

Call to Confession: Dearly beloved, the proof of God's amazing love is this. While we were still sinners, Christ died for us, and because we have faith in Christ, we dare to approach God in confidence. Let us therefore confess our sins to God with the confidence that God will forgive us.

Prayer of Confession: God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace.

In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (pastor) Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. I declare that in the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

ACCEPTANCE OF FORGIVENESS (All) - We rejoice that we are forgiven and made new. Thanks be to God! Amen.

SHARING SIGNS OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST One: Let us share God's Peace with one another, and with the world, by waving to the other members or using a Zoom icon to send a greeting.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

One: As we listen for the Good News of Christ among us, let us pray:

All: Lord, open our hearts and minds by the work of your Holy Spirit, so that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is experienced, we may hear with joy the word that you have for us today.

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 64:1-9

Spanish liturgist: Dana Howarth

READING FROM THE GREEK SCRIPTURES

First Corinthians 1:3-9

English liturgist: Rich Holmes

Special Music

Elliot Smith

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (adapted from The Apostle's Creed)

I believe in God, eternal, almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of all, the Only Begotten One; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.

Jesus descended into hell and on the third day rose again from the dead. Jesus, Our Savior, ascended into heaven, sits at the right hand of God Almighty, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER (Ecumenical version, adapted) Our Lord God in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

OFFERING and OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

One: Giver of all good things, let your grace flow through us as a generous stream, unstoppable, refreshing and abundant.

All: In the spirit of gratitude and thanksgiving, we release these gifts into your river of love, flowing out to all the world and renewing your creation. Amen.

~FOLLOWING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD~

Musical Response

Elliot Smith

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Mindy Sampson

***The congregation is asked to join in the responses labeled "All" but to keep their microphones muted. The liturgist, the Rev. Dr. Anne Hays Egan, will keep her microphone on.**