



Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

December 13, 2020

Third Sunday of Advent

~THE PEOPLE GATHER~

GATHERING MUSIC

Mindy Sampson

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Rich Holmes

One: The wilderness and dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing.

***All: God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come and may we walk in the light of the Lord.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 126

Rich Holmes

One: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, then we were like those who dream.

***All: Then was our mouth filled with laughter and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

One: Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."

***All: The Lord has done great things for us and we are glad indeed.**

Opening Hymn

"Voice in the Distance"

Elliot Smith

CALL TO CONFESSION

Beloved of God, hear the good news of scripture: "For it is by grace you have been saved through faith and this is not from you; it is a gift of God." As we trust in the promise of God's grace, let us now confess our sins with the confidence that God will forgive us. Let us pray.

*** Prayer of Confession: Loving God, as we await the coming of a Savior who was without sin, we confess to you our own sinfulness. We have hungered for that which does not satisfy. We have compromised with evil. We have doubted your power to protect us.**

Forgive our lack of faith. Have mercy on us in our weakness. Restore in us a trust and love that will enable us to walk in your ways and delight in doing your will. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (pastor) Hear the good news! The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare that in the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. May the God of mercy strengthen you in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep you in eternal life. Amen.

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 61:1-4, 8-11

English liturgist: Rich Holmes

READING FROM THE GREEK SCRIPTURES

1 Thesalonians 5:16-24

Spanish liturgist: Rhea Graham

Estén siempre contentos. Oren en todo momento. Den gracias a Dios por todo, porque esto es lo que él quiere de ustedes como creyentes en Cristo Jesús. No apaguen el fuego del Espíritu.

~FOLLOWING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD~

Musical Response

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

Elliott 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, Anne Hays Egan, will keep her microphone on.**