



Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

December 6, 2020

Second Sunday of Advent

~THE PEOPLE GATHER~

GATHERING MUSIC

Mindy Sampson

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Rich Holmes

One: The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the fatling together and a little child shall lead them.

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

RESPONSIVE READING

from Psalm 85

Rich Holmes

One: Lord, you were favorable to your land. You restored the fortunes of Jacob.

***All: You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin.**

One: Faithfulness will spring up from the ground and righteousness will look down from the sky.

***All: The Lord will give us what is good and our land will yield its increase.**

Opening Hymn

“Voice in the Distance”

Elliot Smith

CALL TO CONFESSION

Beloved of God, Jesus said "If any want to become my disciples, let them deny themselves, take up their cross and follow me." Let us now admit all the ways we have fallen short of taking up our crosses as we confess what we have done to sin against God and neighbor. Let us pray.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Patient and loving God, as we wait for your reign to come among us, you call us to lead lives of holiness and godliness. We confess that we are slow to change our ways, even when they do not please or glorify you. We have lived for ourselves and not for you.**

Forgive our carelessness in not heeding your will. Cleanse us, O God, that we would be without spot or blemish in your sight. Establish your rule in our hearts, that our lives may proclaim your praise, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (pastor) Friends, hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ. And Christ died for us, Christ was raised for us, Christ reigns in power for us and Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

ACCEPTANCE OF FORGIVENESS ***(All) - We rejoice that we are forgiven and we are at peace. 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 40: 1-11

English liturgist: Rich Holmes

READING FROM THE GREEK SCRIPTURES

Mark 1: 1-8

Spanish liturgist: Pat Thorpe

Special Music

Elliot Smith

SERMON

“A Time to Be Holy”

Rich Holmes

~RESPONDING TO THE WORD~

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: Almighty God, John called your people to repent and offer you their lives in the waters of the Jordan. In the same way, we offer you these gifts of bread and wine and all that we have labored for.

***All: May they be blessed as you have blessed us. May they be made holy as you call us to be holy. All thanks and praise are yours, O God, Amen.**

SHARING THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Breaking the Bread, Pouring the Cup

Participating in the Sacrament

Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: Let us pray. In the sharing of this bread and wine, we proclaim that Christ has died, Christ is risen and Christ will come again.

~FOLLOWING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD~

Musical Response

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.**