



foretold

AN ADVENT SERMON SERIES

8:30 a.m. ~ Sunday, December 4th

PRELUDE

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

arr. Robert Hobby

Organ

WELCOME & RELATIONSHIPS of PEACE

CALL to WORSHIP *from Micah 5:2-5a*

P: But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

C: In Advent Peace we gather and worship trustingly, assured that Christ is coming to set His people free.

P: Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.

C: In Advent Peace we gather and worship trustingly, assured that Christ is coming to set His people free.

P: And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

C: In Advent Peace we gather and worship trustingly, assured that Christ is coming to set His people free.

P: And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace.

C: In Advent Peace we gather and worship trustingly, assured that Christ is coming to set His people free.

OPENING HYMN “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

OPENING LITURGY

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The LORD says, “Prepare the way of the Lord.”

C: We thank You, O Lord!

P: The LORD says, “The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, He is coming.”

C: We adore You, O Lord!

P: The LORD says, "I the LORD do not change; therefore you are not consumed."

C: We praise You, O Lord!

P: The LORD who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C: We worship You, O Lord!

P: Let us pray. O Lord, let the lighting of these candles signify that You are the light that shines in all the darkness of our lives. As we wait, watch, hope, and pray, guide us all to reflect Your light and let it shine; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

[Moment of silent confession]

P: We confess to You, O Lord, that we are captive to sin in thought, word, and deed. We have not always been instruments of Your peace. Our homes have at times been places of strife and turmoil by our own fault. Even in the church sometimes we have chosen to fight rather than to make peace.

C: Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

C: According to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!

RESPONSE "Kyrie for the Four Sundays in Advent"

**Forgive us, Lord, for times when peace was lost,
And moments when we never thought to love,
For times when we oppress and offend
And fight for things that kill us in the end.
Forgive, forgive, forgive us all our sins
And help us be in peace with all our kin.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

RESPONSE “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HOLY GOSPEL LESSON John 14:25-28 [ESV]

“These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

STATEMENT of FAITH *based on John 1 & 3:16*

R: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

C: **All things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made.**

R: In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

C: **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

R: He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him.

C: **He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him.**

R: But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God,

C: **Who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.**

R: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

C: **“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.**

SERMON HYMN “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

SERMON “OUT OF CONFLICT COMES PEACE”

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“What Child Is This”

arr. John Behnke

Handbell Choir

PRAYERS of the CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

WORDS of INSTITUTION

THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

AGNUS DEI

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

arr. Gilbert Martin

Organ

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

NUNC DIMITTIS

POSTLUDE

“Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying”

arr. John Behnke

Organ



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