




Fourth Sunday of Advent

Worship Service of First Presbyterian Church of Casa Grande

9:00 am Sunday, December 13, 2020

 **Welcome** – Pastor Bill

Advent Candle Lighting – Donnie & Sandee Rugg

Opening Voluntary – *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending (Helmsley)*, Richard Hurley

Call to Worship –

LEADER: Perhaps we have heard this story so many times that we take Mary's response for granted. However, surely all of heaven must have held its breath as the angels waited for the answer of a young teenaged virgin, whose response insured glory but also, as Simeon's prophecy made clear, trials as well.

ALL: Here we are, servants of the Lord; let it be with us according to your word!

LEADER: Our "Yes" to God means more if there is the possibility of saying, "No." God has been waiting for your "Yes" all Advent – all of time, really.

ALL: Here we are, servants of the Lord; it is with us according to your word!

LEADER: This day you can say "Yes" to God's assignment, which is waiting for you every day. Open your heart to the call.

ALL: Here we are, servants of the Lord; let it be with us according to your word!

Prayer of Confession –

ALL: Patient Lord, we have kept you waiting. We do not know where this journey will lead, but today we dedicate ourselves to the commission you send, no matter where it may lead. Your light is shining. We ask for your strength regardless of what the result of our response to you might be. Amen.

(Moment of silence for personal confession.) **Amen.**

Through the love and mercy of God, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Scripture – Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

¹ I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.

² **I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you have established your faithfulness in heaven itself.**

³You said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant,

⁴**‘I will establish your line forever and make your throne firm through all generations.’”**

¹⁹Once you spoke in a vision, to your faithful people you said: “I have bestowed strength on a warrior; I have raised up a young man from among the people.

²⁰**I have found David my servant; with my sacred oil I have anointed him.**

²¹My hand will sustain him; surely my arm will strengthen him.

²²**The enemy will not get the better of him; the wicked will not oppress him.**

²³I will crush his foes before him and strike down his adversaries.

²⁴**My faithful love will be with him, and through my name his horn will be exalted.**

²⁵I will set his hand over the sea, his right hand over the rivers.

²⁶**He will call out to me, ‘You are my Father, my God, the Rock my Savior.’**

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Special Music – Jim Sorensen

Prayers of the People & Lord’s Prayer

Scripture – Luke 1:26-38

²⁶In the sixth month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. ²⁸The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.”

²⁹Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. ³¹You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”

³⁴“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”

³⁵The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So, the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷For no word from God will ever fail.”

³⁸“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon – *Ave Maria*, Pastor Bill

How to Support Your Church – Pastor Paul

Offertory – Jim Sorensen

Benediction - Pastor Bill

Postlude – *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (9th Century Plainsong)*, Richard Hurley

Senior Pastor – Rev Paul Elgin

Audio/Visual – Carl Heinle, Janell Heinle

Associate Pastor – Bill Heinle, Commissioned Pastor

Pianist – Richard Hurley

Special Guest – Jim Sorensen

This Week @ FPC

Monday, December 21 - Walking Group 8:00 -10:00 am in the Family Life Center.

Tuesday, December 22-

Wednesday, December 23 -

Thursday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Service online

Friday, December 25 – Merry Christmas

Saturday, December 26 –

Sunday, December 27 – Worship @ 9:00 am in the sanctuary, 10:30 am in the Family Life Center.

For more information on any of these events, contact the church office 836-5981 or visit our website:

www.firstpresbyteriancasagrande.com