



Worship Service for December 10, 2023
Second Sunday of Advent

Prelude	Marshall Davies
Chiming of the Hour	Pam Laham
Welcome	Pastor Felix
Centering Moment	Pastor Felix
Praise and Worship Song	Congregation

“We Light A Candle”

We light a candle for hope
and our world that’s longing for hope

We light a candle for hope
and our world that’s longing for hope Holy One,
shine with the fire our lives oh

We light a candle for hope
and our world that’s longing for hope

We light a candle for love
and our world that’s longing for love

We light a candle for love
and our world that’s longing for love Holy One,

shine with the fire our lives oh
We light a candle for love
and our world that's longing for love

We light a candle for joy
and our world that's longing for joy
We light a candle for joy
and our world that's longing for joy Holy One,
shine with the fire our lives oh

We light a candle for joy
and our world that's longing for joy

We light a candle for peace
and our world that's longing for peace
We light a candle for peace
and our world that's longing for peace Holy One,
shine with the fire our lives oh

We light a candle for peace
and our world that's longing for peace

Call to Worship

Pam Laham

LEADER: In Advent we watch and wait.

ALL: We prepare to welcome the Child Jesus into the world.

LEADER: Come, Holy Child, come!

ALL: In Advent, we prepare for a life of discipleship, witness, and mission.

LEADER: We watch for signs of God's presence breaking into the world.

ALL: Come, Holy Child, come!

LEADER: We watch for signs of God's Divine Nature in each of us, and for

ALL: actions of compassion and grace toward each other and creation.

LEADER: Come, Holy Child, come!

ALL: Remind us of our divine essence and holy calling to peace.

***Hymn**

Marshall Davies

TNCH # 101 "Comfort, Comfort O My People"

verses 1 & 2

Comfort, comfort O my people,
tell of peace, "thus says our God;
Comfort those whose hearts are shrouded,
Mourning under sorrows load.
Speak unto Jerusalem;
of the peace that waits for them.
Tell them that their hurts I cover,
and their warfare now is over.

For the heralds voice is calling
in the desert far and near,
Binding us to make reverence
since the realm of God is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now, prepare for God away;
Let the valleys rise in meeting
And the hills bow down in greeting.

Gathering Prayer

Congregation

ALL: Creator of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for this Advent season and Christmas. We who have so much to do, seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day. We who are anxious over many things, look forward to your coming among us. We who are blessed in so many ways, long for the complete peace of your kindom. We are one spiritual community seeking and waiting for your light. We open our hearts to be a home for Jesus. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Jan Lundy

It is the season of short days and long nights. We light this candle to remember that even in natural darkness, our lights shine. The peace of God allows us to look at others through heaven's eyes and help guide the world to see God's here and not-yet kindom. Peace from God allows us to trust in God's promises despite the dark, scary world around us. Let

us slow down and listen to the sacred voice which is our guide, as we wait to celebrate the coming light in the Child Jesus.

Biblical Witness

Pastor Felix

Isaiah 40:3-5

A voice cries out:

‘In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’

Contemporary Witness

Pam Laham

Earth Prayers From Around the World

Chief Seattle

This we know.

The earth does not belong to us;
we belong to the earth.

This we know

All things are connected
like the blood which unites one family.

All things are connected.

Whatever befalls the earth
befalls the children of the earth.

We did not weave the web of life;

We are merely a strand in it.

Whatever we do to the web,
we do to ourselves...

Reflection

Pastor Felix

“The Original Vision”

Special Music

Plymouth Choir

“Grant Us Peace”

The world waiting with hope, watching expectantly

for the peace promised by God in the scriptures

“Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed,
yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my
covenant of peace be removed,” says the Lord.

That peace was brought to earth in the form of a Child, born
in a stable in Bethlehem. “For unto us a Child is born, a Son
is given. And He will be called the Prince of Peace.”

Dona nobis,
dona nobis pacem.

Born a child to grant us peace.
do-na no-bis pacem.
Grant us peace, Lord.

Away in a manger no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Starlight shines in the evening sky while Mary sings a lullaby.
Peace on earth, good will for all.

Hope is born in a manger stall,
Dona nobis,
dona nobis pacem.

Born a Child to grant us peace.
Dona nobis pacem.

Be near me Lord Jesus I ask Thee to stay close by me
forever, and love me, I pray.

Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for
heaven to live with Thee there.

Dona nobis,
dona nobis pacem.
Grant us peace.

Blessing of the Animals

Pastor Felix

A Word about the Humane Treatment of Animals

Pam Laham

Readings on All Created Beings

Pastor Felix

Job 12:7 & 8

But ask the animals, and they will teach you;
the birds of the air, and they will tell you;
ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you;
and the fish of the sea will declare to you.

Lenore Three Stars

When I call you mitákuyapi, “my relatives,” I am representing a Lakota worldview of kinship. Everything in creation is connected.

Meister Eckhart

Apprehend God in all things,

for God is in all things.

Every single creature is a word of God.

The Blessing Moment of the Animals with Water

(Symbol of Life & Purity)

Pastor Felix

A Prayer for All the Animals and Their Well-Being

Congregation

ALL: Hear our humble prayer, O God, for our friends, the animals, especially for those who are suffering; for animals that are overworked, underfed, and cruelly treated; for all the wistful creatures in captivity, that beat their wings against bars; for any that are hunted or lost or deserted, or frightened or hungry; for all that must be put to death. We entreat for them all Thy mercy and pity, and for those who deal with them, we ask a heart of compassion and gentle hands and kindly words. Make us, ourselves, to be true friends to animals and so to share the blessings of the Merciful. Amen

Invitation to Offering

Pam Laham

aniMeals on Wheels

Offertory Music

Marshall Davies

***Doxology**

Congregation

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God for all that Love has done

Creator, Christ, and Spirit one Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Pam Laham

ALL: Holy One, we commit what we have offered to help sow seeds of hope, peace, joy, and love in the world. Bless now these offerings. May they be used in the service of your divine light.

Amen.

***Hymn**

Congregation

TNCH # 32 "God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale"

vs 1, 5, & 6

God of the sparrow God of the whale

God of the swirling stars

How does the creature say Awe

How does the creature say Praise

God of the neighbor God of the foe

God of the pruning hook

How does the creature say Love

How does the creature say Peace

God of the ages God near at hand

God of the loving heart

How do your children say Joy

How do your children say Home

Benediction

Pastor Felix

Song of Parting

Congregation

TNCH # 136 “Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child”

Jesus, Jesus, Oh, what a wonderful child.

Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek, and mild;

new life, new hope the Child will bring.

Listen to the angels sing,

“Glory, glory, glory,” let the heavens ring!

Jesus, Jesus, Oh, what a wonderful child.
Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek, and mild;
new life, new hope the Child will bring.
Listen to the angels sing,
“Glory, glory, glory,” let the heavens ring!

Postlude

Marshall Davies

Today's Worship Participants

Worship Leader: Pam Laham

Sound: Tony Trosclair

Video: Sarah Bowman

Projector: Mary Lowell

Rev. Felix Carrión

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