



Worship Service for December 11, 2022

Blue Christmas

Prelude Marshall Davies

Chiming of the Hour Paula McKnight

Welcome Pastor Mak

Centering Moment Pastor Mak

Call to Worship Paula McKnight

LEADER: Today we come bringing our hurts, our worry, our grief, and our fears.

ALL: We come acknowledging our pain.

LEADER: With the psalmist of old we say,

ALL: O Lord, you are my refuge,

LEADER: My portion in the land of the living.

ALL: Give heed to my cry, for I am brought very low.

***Hymn** Congregation

Sing! # 31 "Lord, You Are Welcome"

Peace, you are welcome in this place,

Truth, you are welcome in this place,

Love, you are welcome in this place,
Show us your way.

Send your anointing in this place.
Send your anointing in this place.
Send your anointing in this place.
Show us your way.

Move by your Spirit in this place.
Move by your Spirit in this place.
Move by your Spirit in this place.
Show us your way.

Heal and deliver in this place.
Heal and deliver in this place.
Heal and deliver in this place.
Show us your way.

Peace, you are welcome in this place,
Truth, you are welcome in this place,
Love, you are welcome in this place,
Show us your way.

Lighting the Advent Candles

Pastor Mak

Biblical Witness

Pastor Mak

Psalms 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help when the morning dawns. The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; God speaks and the earth melts. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Come, behold the works of the Creator; see what desolations have been brought on the earth. God makes wars cease to the end of the earth; breaks the bow and shatters the spear; God burns the shields with fire. "Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth." The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Contemporary Witness

Paula McKnight

I Will Light Candles this Christmas by Howard Thurman

I will light candles this Christmas,
Candles of joy despite all the sadness,
Candles of hope where despair keeps watch,
Candles of courage for fears ever present,

Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days,
Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens,
Candles of love to inspire all my living,
Candles that will burn all year long.

Special Music

Plymouth Choir

“Breath of Heaven”

I have traveled many moonless nights
Cold and weary with a babe inside
And I wonder what I've done
Holy father you have come
And chosen me now to carry your son

I am waiting in a silent prayer
I am frightened by the load I bear
In a world as cold as stone
Must I walk this path alone?
Be with me now
Be with me now

Breath of heaven
Hold me together
Be forever near me
Breath of heaven
Breath of heaven
Lighten my darkness

Pour over me your holiness
For you are holy
Breath of heaven

Do you wonder as you watch my face
If a wiser one should have had my place
But I offer all I am
For the mercy of your plan
Help me be strong
Help me be
Help me

Breath of heaven
Hold me together
Be forever near me
Breath of heaven
Breath of heaven
Lighten my darkness
Pour over me your holiness
For you are holy

Breath of heaven
Hold me together
Be forever near me
Breath of heaven
Breath of heaven
Lighten my darkness

Pour over me your holiness
For you are holy

Breath of heaven
Breath of heaven
Breath of heaven

Reflection Pastor Mak

Ritual of the Four Elements Pastor Mak

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Mak

Unison Prayer Pastor Mak & Congregation

Holy Love, we accept your invitation to walk with you and with each other. When we are feeble, help us reach out to your strong arm. When we are in trouble, help us call on your grace without guilt. Increase our faith when our destination seems distant and our hearts are heavy. Remind us that our doubts are evidence of thinking and feeling deeply.

Draw us close as a family of faith. Where there is discord help us mend. Give us ears to hear each other and hearts to love beyond our fears. We long to know your sacred presence more fully each day and share it with each other. We yield to Spirit. Show us how to live more honestly and to see the needs around us so we

can make a difference. Our hearts are grateful and sing praises for the beauty, wonder, and mystery of Love.

*** Hymn**

Congregation
Sing! # 201 "Deep Peace"

Peace, peace, deep peace,
My peace I give to you.
Peace, peace, deep peace,
My peace I give to you.

Not as the world gives,
I give to you,
Not as the world gives,
I give to you.
Peace, peace, deep peace,
My peace I give to you.

Love, love, strong love,
My love I give to you.
Love, love, strong love,
My love I give to you.

Not as the world gives,
I give to you,
Not as the world gives,
I give to you.

Love, love, strong love,
My love I give to you.

Benediction

Pastor Mak

Prayer Garden Meditation

Congregation Outside

Postlude

Marshall Davies

Today's Worship Participants

Worship Leader: Paula McKnight

Sound: Tony Trosclair

Video: Mark Vines

Projector: Lynette Lange

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