

Washington Street United Methodist Church

Outdoor Service

December 6, 2020 Second Sunday in Advent

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

Please be sure to "register" your family at the Registration Table. Before the service, during the singing of hymns and the solo, you are invited to approach one of the crosses and tie a ribbon to the cross. Each color symbolizes a different prayer. These crosses will be in the hallway of the church throughout the week and will return for each outdoor worship experience.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Of the Father's Love Begotten

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM,

arr. Paul Jonas

CAROL

Dr. Dwight Dockery, tenor; Dr. Rick Frierson, piano; Bob Evans, handbells

OPENING PRAYER

ONE: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Let us pray together;

God of Israel, with expectant hearts we your people await Christ's coming. As once he came in humility, so now may he come in glory, that he may make all things perfect in your everlasting kingdom. For he is lord for ever and ever. Amen. *

CAROL 218 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

(vs. 1, 4)

- It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gracious King." The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.
- 4. For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old, when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold when peace shall over all the earth its ancient spenders fling, and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

 Words: Edmund H. Sears, 1849; Music: Richard Storrs Willis, 1850

*THE GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:1-8

SOLO O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Traditional Carol Bob Evans, baritone; Dr. Rick Frierson, piano

HOMILY "The Beginning of the Good News" Rev. Parrish

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Advent Credo

ONE: It is not true that creation and the human family are doomed to destruction and loss—

ALL: This is true: For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life;

ONE: It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction—

ALL: This is true: I have come that they may have life, and that abundantly.

ONE: It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word, and that war and destruction rule forever—

ALL: This is true: Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, his name shall be called wonderful councilor, mighty God, the Everlasting, the Prince of peace.

ONE: It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world—

ALL: This is true: To me is given authority in heaven and on earth, and lo I am with you, even until the end of the world.

ONE: It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the prophets of the Church before we can be peacemakers—

ALL: This is true: I will pour out my spirit on all flesh and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions and your old men shall have dreams.

ONE: It is not true that our hopes for liberation of humankind, of justice, of human dignity, of peace are not meant for this earth and for this history—

ALL: This is true: The hour comes, and it is now, that the true worshipers shall worship God in spirit and in truth.

So let us enter Advent in hope,

even hope against hope.

Let us see visions of love and peace and justice.

Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with faith, with courage:

Jesus Christ—the life of the world.

~ written by Daniel Berrigan, S.J. in *Testimony: The Word Made Flesh*, Orbis Books, 2004. Posted on Dan Clendenin's **Journey with Jesus** website. http://www.journeywithjesus.net/

VERY SOON

*HYMN 706 Soon and Very Soon

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King:

soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;

soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the king!

Words and Music: Andraé Crouch, 1978; arr. William Farley Smith, 1987

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CAROL 230 O Little Town of Bethlehem ST. LOUIS

(vs. 1, 3)

- 1. O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie; above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
- 3. How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given; so God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven. No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

 Words: Phillips Brooks, ca. 1868; Music: Lewis H. Redner, 1868

BENEDICTION

*Handbook of the Christian year, copyright 1986, Abingdon press.

We welcome all of you to this time of worship. In these strange times we are sharing God's word and witness in new ways. We welcome old friends and new in the name of Jesus Christ. Please join us again here in this space on *December 20, 4:00 pm for a Carol Sing,* and on *Christmas Eve we will offer services at Noon and at 4:00 pm.* Both services will include Holy Communion. Please join us as we celebrate the coming of our Lord.

WELCOME TO OUR COMMUNITY

The rose on the pulpit is placed in celebration of Braxton McCoy Murphy, born November 20, 2020. Parents, Michael and Kristin Murphy, brother, Tanner and grandparents Gwen and Keith Murphy welcome Braxton to their family as we welcome him to the Washington Street family.

FLOWERS

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of George A. Markert.

PRAYER LIST

Martha Brooker	Linda Fersperman	Bud Harrelson	Rev. Judy King	Rick Rowe
Jimmy Dawkins	Don Fowler	Karen Horne	Beverly McClanahan	Nan Self
Mickey Epting	Charles Garren	Geneva Hutchinson	Braxton Murphy	Our homebound
Nancy Epting	Frances Grimes	Lisa Johnson	Angela Powers	

Contact information for those listed can be accessed through Engage Washington or by calling the Church Office.

NOW IS THE TIME TO GIVE!

TEXT TO GIVE – TEXT "ENGAGE" TO 73256 AND FOLLOW THE PROMPS GIVE THROUGH ENGAGE WASHINGTON, WWW.WSMETHODIST.ORG/ENGAGE OR MAIL YOUR DONATION!

Reverend Patricia J. Parrish
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DECEMBER 6, 2020

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