

# St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

NOVEMBER 29, 2020

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## WELCOME

### OPENING VOLUNTARY

*Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*  
*("Sleepers wake!" A voice is calling)*

Paul Manz

### CALL TO WORSHIP

The power of dreams lies in waking up. For when we close our eyes,

**We can see a better world.**

When we close our eyes,

**We can dream a better dream.**

But when we open our eyes,

**We begin the work of faith.**

The power of worship is the same. When we enter this space,

**We can see a better world.**

When we enter this space,

**We dream a better dream.**

But when we leave this space,

**We begin the work of faith.**

So come in. Dream your dream.

**Find hope here.**

For in an hour,

**We will begin the work of faith.**

Let it be so.

### CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY

#### HYMN

*Watchman, Tell Us of the Night*

ABERYSTWYTH

Watchman, tell us of the night, what its signs of promise are.  
Traveler, what a wondrous sight: see that glory-beaming star.  
Watchman, does its beauteous ray news of joy or hope foretell?  
Traveler, yes; it brings the day, promised day of Israel.

Watchman, tell us of the night; higher yet that star ascends.  
Traveler, blessedness and light, peace and truth its course portends.  
Watchman, will its beams alone gild the spot that gave them birth?  
Traveler, ages are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth.

### CONFESSING OUR SIN

Original Dreamer,

Over and over again in scripture, we hear your dream for a beautiful world.

We hear your dream for peace and reconciliation.

We hear your dream for harmony and togetherness.

We hear your dream for community and hope.

We hear your dreams, and yet we do not open our eyes.

We continue to live with the curtains drawn, the covers pulled tight, eyes shut to the realities of the world.

Forgive us. Kindle a hope in us that will burn through the darkest nights.

Give us the strength and the will to keep awake in this sleeping world.

With hope we pray...

*Silence is kept for personal prayers of confession*

### SONG OF PETITION

*While We are Waiting, Come*

WAITING

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

### DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

**JOYFUL RESPONSE TO THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**      *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

ST. LOUIS

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.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Judy Cook

**HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING**

Isaiah 64:1-9

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

**GOSPEL READING**

Mark 13:24-37

**CHILDREN'S LESSON**

**SERMON**

*Those Who Dream...Keep Awake*

Rev. Camille LeBron Powell

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe in God.

**We believe that God has dreams for humanity.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit.

**We believe that the Holy Spirit comforts us when our dreams turn to nightmares.**

We believe in Jesus.

**We believe that Jesus walked this world to wake us up, Inviting us to be the church in the world.**

We believe in dreams.

**We believe in the power that dreams have to show us a new way.**

So in this Advent season,

**We are those who dream and those who wake up. May it be so. Amen.**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS OF GOD'S CHURCH, COMMUNITY AND WORLD**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS**

**Offertory Response**

*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

TALLIS' CANON

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**Prayer of Dedication**

**HYMN**

*On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry*

WINCHESTER NEW

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|---|---|
| 1) On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry<br>Announces that the Lord is nigh;<br>Awake and hearken, for he brings<br>Glad tidings of the King of kings! | 2) Then cleansed be every life from sin;<br>Make straight the way for God within,<br>And let us all our hearts prepare<br>For Christ to come and enter there. |
| 3) We hail you as our Savior, Lord,<br>Our refuge and our great reward;<br>Without your grace we waste away<br>Like flowers that wither and decay.  | 4) Stretch forth your hand; our health restore,<br>And make us rise to fall no more.<br>O let your face upon us shine<br>And fill the world with love divine. |

**CHARGE AND BLESSING**

## THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*  
My soul cries out with a joyful shout  
That the God of my heart is great,  
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things  
That you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,  
And my weakness you did not spurn,  
So from east to west shall my name be blest.  
Could the world be about to turn?

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,  
And the world is about to turn.

## BENEDICTION IN MUSIC

*Variation on HYFRYDOL*  
*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*  
Homage to J. S. Bach

Charles Callahan

Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, and Affirmation of Faith by Sarah Are |  
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## Information on this Week's Music

**Opening Voluntary** Both the text and the music are by Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608), a Lutheran pastor who served in Unna, Westphalia, Germany. Although the hymn was written specifically based on the Gospel for the Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost in Year A, it is always considered appropriate for the First Sunday of Advent. This setting is from a collection of pieces for Advent and Christmas by Paul Manz (1919-2009) who long served the church as recitalist, composer, teacher and leader in worship.

**First Hymn** Authored by John Bowring (1792-1872), first published in London (1825), the unusual dialogue text may be based on the interchange between a traveler and a sentinel found in Isaiah 21:11-12. It was first published in the U.S. in Boston (1830) as a broadside and became far more popular here than in Great Britain. The music was composed by Joseph Parry (1841-1903) and first published in the Welsh Congregational Union hymn book in 1879. The tune (pronounced ab-er-IST-with) is named for a town on the west coast of Wales.

**Benediction in Music** One of a set of variations from Partita on Hyfrydol composed by Charles Callahan (b. 1951) a well-known American award-winning composer, organist, choral conductor, pianist, and teacher. The tune was composed by Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1877). The name translates from Welsh Gaelic as "cheerful."