

Order of Worship – Sunday, December 20, 2020

CHIMES

PRELUDE

“But Who May Abide the Day of His Coming” G. F. Handel

Catalina Daggett

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Landes Dung

Reader: “The true light that shines on all people was coming into the world.”

We light the fourth Advent candle as creatures eager to meet their Creator. The Word, the life that was present in the beginning is coming down to us, to make God known. Jesus, you are the light of the world.

Light four candles.

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” v. 4

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Allison

Creator God, in the beginning you called light from darkness, and you have made your light to shine in our hearts by displaying your glory in the person of Jesus Christ. We call him by many names, but they all point to your presence, power, and love. May we shine with your light not only at Christmas but at all times, in all our words and deeds. As Jesus took on human flesh so long ago, may we your followers incarnate your love for others, so that all might give glory to our Father in heaven. Amen.

OPENING SONG

“How Many Kings”

Praise Band

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Pastor Allison

PRAYER SONG

“Open Our Eyes, Lord”

Praise Band

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor Allison

Compassionate God, in this time of darkness, we wait for the One who will come and redeem us. As we revel in the merriment of the season and the sparkle of decorations, we need to remember there are also many for whom the holiday season isn’t one of joy and good cheer.

We pray for those who cannot see the light in the darkness, that they would find hope not in the commercial side of Christmas but in the promise of the Christ child. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who grieve this Advent season, fearing the first Christmas after losing a beloved one, that they would know your comfort and find hope in the promise of the resurrection. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who struggle to feel joy because they’re mired in mounting bills and in despair for lack of employment, that they would have faith that you will provide. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for our military families who are separated by great distance from their loved ones serving in Iraq, Afghanistan or elsewhere, whose tables have an empty seat this Christmas, that they would rely on you for strength and protection. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for those whose family dynamics make holidays not a time of festive joy but of stress and anger. We pray that through your grace, hearts can be softened, old hurts can be released and a door might be opened to reconciliation. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Christ, we pray for those who are sick, in the hospital, recovering at home, or facing procedures....

We pray for those who mourn, asking for the Holy Spirit to comfort them and remind them of the hope we have in You....

We pray for those who are traveling. See them safely home....

We celebrate with those who celebrate....

We pray for our first responders, health care professionals, and our spiritual leaders....

We lift up these prayers to You, as well as spoken prayer requests and unspoken prayers of our people....

Silent prayer

We pray in the name of our Savior who taught us to pray, saying...

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 trespasses as we forgive those who have trespassed against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

SERMON

“Light of the World”

Pastor Allison

Isaiah 9:2-5, John 1:1-5, Matthew 5:14-16

CLOSING SONG

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Praise Band

OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor Allison

As we wait together for the day of Christ’s coming, may these, our offerings, be signs of God’s fruit. In our giving, may we grow in the compassion and justice of Jesus, in whose name we pray and whose coming we celebrate. Amen.

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

Pastor: Where will we go and who will we be?

All: We go out into the world to be God’s people.

POSTLUDE

“And the Glory of the Lord Was Revealed” G. F. Handel

Catalina Daggett



Our Advent worship series and companion small group study this year will be “Incarnation,” based on Rev. Adam Hamilton’s latest book. “Incarnation” examines what it means when we proclaim that Christ our Savior is born, rediscovering the meaning of Emmanuel, God-With-Us.

Week 4 – The Light of the World



December 20, 2020

WELCOME

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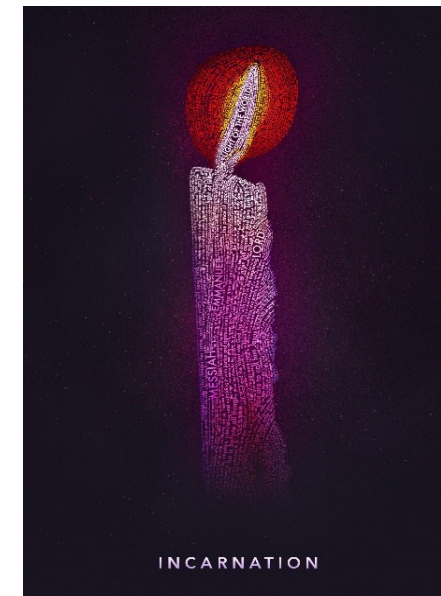
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Office Hours:

Monday – Wednesday 9:00am - 1:00pm

Our Mission Statement:

**To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for
 the Transformation of the World**



Allison Byerley, Senior Pastor
 Marcelo Escarzaga, Pastor for Hispanic Ministry
 Lynnda Boswell, Administrative Assistant
 Landes Dung, Music Coordinator/Director
 Catalina Daggett, Organist
 Andrew Summers, Technical Services Director
 Max Muhlenbrock, Custodian
 Julia Summers, Event Coordinator

United Methodist Church

Bishop Minerva Carcaño

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