

Joy

THE WILDERNESS
WILL REJOICE
AND BLOSSOM
LIKE THE CROCUS

-Isaiah 35:1

WILTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 13, 2020

BIG MUSIC SUNDAY



WELCOME

WILTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 13, 2020

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

BIG MUSIC SUNDAY

We are glad that you found us and that you are here. We are a progressive, welcoming and inclusive congregation seeking both to know Christ and to make Christ known to people from all walks of life. We pray that we will become better acquainted with you.

Prelude

Angels We Have Heard on High
French Carol ♦ Arr. Susan E Geschke

Bell Choir

Welcome

Rev. Shannon White

Introit

I Believe in God ♦ *Ode to Joy*

Advent Wreath Lighting ~ Joy

The Richards Family

Responsive Benediction

Leader: Holy One, we thank you for the glimpses we catch of your gift of the depths of joy. Even in the midst of fear, of challenge, of struggle—even when we are not sure of your presence, ignite the flame of joy within us

People: **... that we might glow with its brilliance from the inside out. Help us face the silence of unknowing and embrace it as the pregnant pause before joyful new beginnings.**

Amen.

Hymn

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Anthem

Angels' Carol
Words and Music by John Rutter

Amy Bender and Alison Wood

*Have you heard the sounds of the angel voices,
ringing out so sweetly, ringing out so clear?
Have you seen the star shining out so brightly...
as a sign from God that Christ the Lord is here?
Have you heard the news that they bring from heaven...
to the humble shepherds who have waited long?
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Hear the angels sing their joyful song.*

*He is come in peace in the winter's stillness,
Like a snowfall in the gentle night. He is come in joy.
He is come in joy, like the sun at morning,
Filling all the world with radiance and with light.*

*He is come in love as the child of Mary.
In a simple stable we have seen his birth.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Hear the angels singing:
'Peace on earth'.*

*He will bring new light to a world in darkness,
Like a bright star shining in the skies above.
He will bring new hope to the waiting nations.
When he comes to reign in purity and love.
Let the earth rejoice at the Saviour's coming.
Let the heavens answer with the joyful morn:
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Hear the angels singing:
'Christ is born'.*

Anthem

In the Bleak Midwinter

WPC Choir

Text by Christina Rossetti ◊ Music by Gustav Holst ◊ Arr. Robert Lau

*In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter long ago.*

*Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter a stable-place sufficed
The Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.*

*Angels and archangels gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air,
But His mother only in her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.*

*What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb,
If I were a wise man I would do my part,
Yet what can I give Him, give my heart.*

Prayer for Illumination

Patty Connor

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Flute Solo

Greensleeves Variations
Arr. L. Fleury and Dewey Owens

Carla Strauss

Anthem

Still, Still, Still
Traditional Austrian Carol ♦ Arr. Susan T. Nelson

Bell Choir

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Dee King

*The First Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay;
In fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.*

*They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.*

*Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,
And with his blood mankind hath bought
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.*

Announcements

Responsive Benediction

The Archibald Family

In this season of waiting, know this...

Leader: We wait for justice

All: but we do not wait to work for change;

Leader: We wait for restored health

All: but we do not wait to work to heal;

Leader: We wait for wholeness

All: but we do not wait to work at binding brokenness;

Leader: We wait for peace

All: but we do not wait to work to eliminate hatred.

Leader: Like bells ringing out the news that the light has dawned and shines on all people, fill the night left by sadness with messages of peace.

Go into your lives humming the tunes that keep that peace alive in you and that spur you on in your work of justice and reconciliation.

Raise your voices and repeat after me...

“do not be afraid!”

All: “do not be afraid!” Amen!

WILTON PRESBYTERIAN STAFF

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SESSION

DEACONS

Class of 2020

John Burgdorfer
Jessica Jones

Class of 2020

Margaret Carkner
David Hull
Jennifer Gabrielson
Barbara Martin

Class of 2021

Buck Burnaman
Forrest Close
Berta Hull (Clerk)
Jason Rice

Class of 2021

Dee King
Tom Schneider
Becky Shroyer
Cathy Thomas

Class of 2022

Patty Connor
John Stewart
Jock Wright

Class of 2022

Rachelle Bernabei
Sally Carta
Virgil Roberson
Liz Archibald



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