

Christmas Mission Market- Join us in the fellowship hall **TODAY** after worship, to give the gift of giving to 4 different agencies. If you cannot join us today, feel free to come in to the church office during office hours to donate.

In this Holy Season, we hope you find time to prepare for Christ's coming and hear where he may be calling you.

On **Sunday, December 12th**, we have 2 wonderful opportunities for worship and fellowship.

1. The youth and children will be presenting their annual Christmas Pageant in worship that day as well as leading the whole worship service.

2. Following the Pageant, we will have an all church Advent Festival. This is a fellowship event for ALL ages and we are doing all we can to make it a safe experience for everyone. We will be wearing masks and spreading out throughout the building.

Following worship, you will be invited to go to various rooms for mission, craft and holiday festivities. We will have opportunities for Christmas Pictures around the beautiful Christmas Tree, A Candle Twisting craft, Ornament making, Christmas Card making, cookie decorating, and the Alternative Mission Market will be open for some holiday shopping. In addition, we will have a special collection of Peanut Butter for Food for Lane County.

Homebound Christmas Cards- The Deacons have tables set up in the hallway with the Homebound member's Christmas cards ready to be signed by you, so stop by!

The Giving Tree- This year, due to covid, Rainbow Village has requested visa gift cards for the residents. We will also provide Winco gift cards in place of the food baskets. Please visit the Deacon's station at the Christmas Mission Market and make a donation towards the Rainbow Village Giving Tree.

12/24/21: Christmas Eve Worship- Family Service at 4:30pm
Candlelight and Communion at 7:30pm

Happy Birthday to: Drew Emmett 12/08, Dick Beers 12/09, Eilidh Miller 12/10, Sheila Snyder 12/10, Pam Tibbitts 12/10

Leading in worship today:

The Revs Marta and David Ukropina, Co-pastors

Ursula Damgaard, Music Director

Advent liturgy: Deacons- Teri Yerton, Anita Brown, Jane Emmett

Communion Servers: John O'Brien, Ann McCarley, Sheila Snyder, Catherine York,
Heather York, E.J. Peterson



Westminster Presbyterian Church
Eugene, Oregon
December 5, 2021

Gathering Around God's Word

PRELUDE *O Come, Little Children* J.A.P. Schulz arr. by Melody Bober

WELCOME

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING: The Candle of Peace
Deacons: Teri Yerton, Anita Brown, Jane Emmett

*CALL TO WORSHIP
The Lord is coming to his Temple.
We watch and wait for his coming.
Come, O people of God.
Prepare the way of the Lord!

*UNISON PRAYER OF THE DAY
Holy One, through your Holy Spirit instruct us by the light of your prophets. Illumine our hearts, that we may hear your call to become your path in the world. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN *Prepare the Way, O Zion* #106

CALL TO CONFESSION

John came out of the wilderness to preach repentance, and he preaches to us still. Let us trust in God's love for us and confess our sin, confident in God's mercy.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, you have sent prophets and we have not listened. We have not always made way for your reign in our lives, our church, and our society. Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant with us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

If we repent, God is sure to forgive us. The One who began a good work in us will bring it to completion.

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

New Testament Reading: Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley

shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

ANTHEM *Breath of Heaven (Mary's Song)* by Amy Grant and Chris Eaton
sung by: Elizabeth Dhungana

SERMON "Get Ready" Rev. David Ukropina

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God; preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. Amen.

Responding to God's Word

COMMUNION 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.

Sending of God's Word

*CLOSING HYMN *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* #761

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Traditions of Christmas* Chip Davis