

CARROLLTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

1st Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020 - 11:00 A.M.



PREPARING TO WORSHIP GOD

CENTERING PRAYER

I need Your sense of order. The confusion of the details of living is sometimes overwhelming. The little things keep getting in my way, providing ready-made excuses for failure to do and be what I know I ought to do and be. Much time is spent on things that are not very important while significant things are put in an insignificant place in my scheme of order. I must unscramble my affairs so that my life will become order. O God, I need Your sense of order. - Howard Thurman

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Bryant Hand

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Linda Handyside

PRELUDE

Now Come, Savior of all Peoples, BWV 650
Dawn McCord, Organ

J. S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

In every season of life,

God is always with us, even when we believe otherwise.

In this season of waiting,

**Jesus reminds us that Bethlehem is the beginning of our discipleship,
not the end of the journey.**

In this season of Advent anticipation and hope,

the Spirit opens our ears to the songs of the angels.

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Al and Mim Jones

HYMN

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus
Devon Hill & Mimi Gentry, songleaders

82

CALL TO CONFESSION

Linda Handyside

In this season of hope, joy, and peace - how often do people receive these gifts from us? As we begin our journey through Advent, let us put down those failures and foolish behaviors which keep us from getting very far. Join me as we pray, saying.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Linda Handyside

Holy God of Advent, you come near to us, yet we continue to seal our hearts with indifference to a suffering world. Tear open our hearts and make us more compassionate. You approach us with bundles of mercy to kindle our hope, but we continue to build our lives with bricks of bitterness. Tear open our anger, so we might become more forgiving. You draw near, longing to embrace us, but we fold our arms, closing ourselves off from those all around us. Tear open our souls, so we might become children of Advent. God, shaper of our lives: have mercy; Jesus, Word-which-does-not-pass away: fill us with your grace; Holy Spirit, Giver-of-the-Light-of-peace: shine through our lives. *Silence is kept.* Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Even now, God approaches us, mercy transcending anger, hope overcoming despair, life triumphing over death. This is good news, my friends, this is news of great joy for each of us. Enriched in every grace, blessed with joy and hope, transformed by love, we will live as people of Advent. Thanks be to God. Amen.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING : 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Rev. Michael Moore

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 13:24-37

Rev. Michael Moore

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

God is Faithful

Rev. Michael Moore

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(from the PCUSA Brief Statement of Faith)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(When you hear Lord in your mercy, please respond by saying: hear our 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

WORDS OF GRACE AND THANKSGIVING

Linda Handyside

God's love is revealed in those who seek to be faithful in sharing their gifts, so the hungry might be fed, so the lonely might be comforted, so the forgotten will be remembered, so our sisters and brothers might know God's grace and love in their lives. Amen.

FOLLOWING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

HYMN

Freedom is Coming

359

Devon Hill & Mimi Gentry, songleaders: Denise Moore, signer

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

People, Look East - Traditional French Melody
Leslie Goldsmith, piano

Arr: Lloyd Larson

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Michael Moore
Music Director and Organist: Dawn McCord
Pianist: Leslie Goldsmith
Liturgist: Linda Handyside
Sound Technician: Bryant Hand
Virtual Worship Technicians: Keith and Robin Ellison
Musical Meditations: Mary Anne Taylor and Bryant Hand
Handbell Director: Brianna Cunningham



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ANNOUNCEMENTS



Even though we will not have Poinsettias in the sanctuary at Christmas, you can still honor and/or remember a loved one by donating in their name to Carrollton Presbyterian Church. Please specify if your donation is for the church or JOY Gift Offering. These donations will be acknowledged in the December 20th bulletin. You can give through Realm communications, our church website or mail a check to the church office. Please be sure to give us the person's name(s) you want honored or in remembrance. Also include how you want the donor's name(s) listed. The deadline for these is December 14th.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 10:00am - 2:00pm.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Leadership</u>
Monday, November 30		
Tuesday, December 1 2:00 p.m.	Open Hands - Food	Outreach Team
Wednesday, December 2		
Thursday, December 3 11:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Soup Kitchen Open Hands - Food Wine and the Word Circle	Outreach Team Outreach Team
Friday, December 4		
Saturday, December 5		
Sunday, December 6 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Tai Chi Streaming Worship Service	Worship Team

* For more information on any of these events, please contact the church office, or an elder serving on the appropriate leadership team.

Session Members: Jay Horsley (Admin), Mimi Gentry (Communications), Mary Anne Taylor (Worship), Dena Wilson (Fellowship & Worship), Chase Robinson (Stewardship & Finance), Carolyn Aycock (Stewardship & Finance), Pat Sheffield (Member Care), Jared Price (Christian Ed.), Jackie Warren (Buildings & Grounds), Jeb Brown (Buildings & Grounds), Patti Stewart (Outreach), and Jeff Branyon (Outreach)