

12/24/2020

Sunday: Christmas Eve, Year B

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP:

O sing to the Lord a new song; tell of God's salvation from day to day.

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; God is to be feared above all gods.

Worship the Lord in holy array; tremble before God, all the earth!

Honor and majesty are before God; strength and beauty are in God's sanctuary.

Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF ADORATION:

We praise your name, O God. You are glorified among the nations and in all creation.

You cause the flowers to bloom; the honeycomb drips with sweetness according to your design. You dwell in teeming cities and in the quiet of the countryside. The whole earth is your habitation. You invite us into your sanctuary, where we worship and bow down before you. Fill us now with your Spirit, and let your presence be our blessing. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES:

Reader 1: We light these candles to represent the hope, peace, love, and joy given to us in the Christ child.

Reader 2: We light the Christ candle to symbolize God's promise fulfilled. 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. Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to all on whom this favor rests.

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

HYMN: O Little Town of Bethlehem (121)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Your grace, O God, has appeared for the salvation of all, calling us to renounce false gods and irresponsible love. In the midst of our sin, Christ has appeared as a sign of our hope, redeeming us and calling us to be a people eager to do your will. Make us zealous for good deeds in response to your wonderful deed in Jesus Christ. We confess the vain worship of ourselves and our neglect of your children. Forgive us and empower us to live upright and godly lives in this world. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Know this, that the assurance of our forgiveness has come. "For a child has been born for us, a son given to us . . . 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 for this time onward and forevermore.” Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE (*honking horns, waving*)

GLORIA PATRI

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:1-20

PRE-SERMON PRAYER

SERMON: The Magic of This Eve

POST-SERMON PRAYER

HYMN: Angels We Have Heard on High (113)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

I believe in God whose light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never smother it.

I believe that on a night like this night in Bethlehem there was born a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.

I believe in the Word who has become incarnate, our very flesh and blood, yet full of grace and truth.

I believe in the blessed appearing of the salvation of our God, that is for the happiness of all people.

I believe in his name as Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of peace; Of the increase of his rule and of his unique peace, there will be no end. The zeal of the God of hosts will do this.

This I surely believe!

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD’S PRAYER

MISSION STATEMENT: Our mission is to proclaim and demonstrate the inclusiveness of God’s Love to the people of the Ozarks and the needy of the world.

DOXOLOGY

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

Your Word is made flesh and dwells among us, O God, full of grace and truth. For that gift and all you bestow, we say Alleluia and Amen! As we behold your glory, we commit ourselves to Christ's work. Make of us the body of Christ and dwell in us by your Spirit for the sake of the world that you love. Amen.

HYMN: Silent Night, Holy Night (122)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

TRIPLE "AMEN" (601)

POSTLUDE