

Traditional Service November 28, 2021

Call to Worship - Isaiah 40.1-4

Leader: Comfort, comfort My people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

People: A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Leader: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;

People: The uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain."

Carol of Anticipation and Preparation:

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (245)

Lighting of Advent Candle - Isaiah 64.1-9

Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence - as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil - to make your name known to your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome things that we did not look for, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him.

You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

There is no one who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities. But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all your people.

Prayer of Adoration

"Of the Father's Love Begotten" #240

Public Confession of Sin

All: O Lord Christ, we confess our willingness to be loved but also our reluctance to love. We confess our readiness to accept Your forgiving love but also our refusal to forgive.

We confess our eagerness to grasp Your offer of redeeming love but also our resistance to follow You without question.

In this Advent time, forgive us our failure to respond as we should. Come to us anew, and by Your grace, assist us to receive You with joy, as the shepherds; with gratitude, as Simeon; with obedience, as Mary; with love, as You have loved us. Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Private Confession - A moment of silent confession.

Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel – Isaiah 9.2

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

“Once in Royal David’s City” #286

Offertory

“God So Loved the World”

Announcements

Sermon

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” #244

Benediction

Isaiah 60.1

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

People - (with a loud voice!): Thanks be to God! Amen.