



"A Community Of Many Faithing Communities Where All Belong!"

Living Waters Contemplative Life Center | Divine Intervention Ministry to the Homeless
Tippecanoe just.good.food Garden | Food Justice Site PCUSA
Arts and Science Literacy Camps for Children

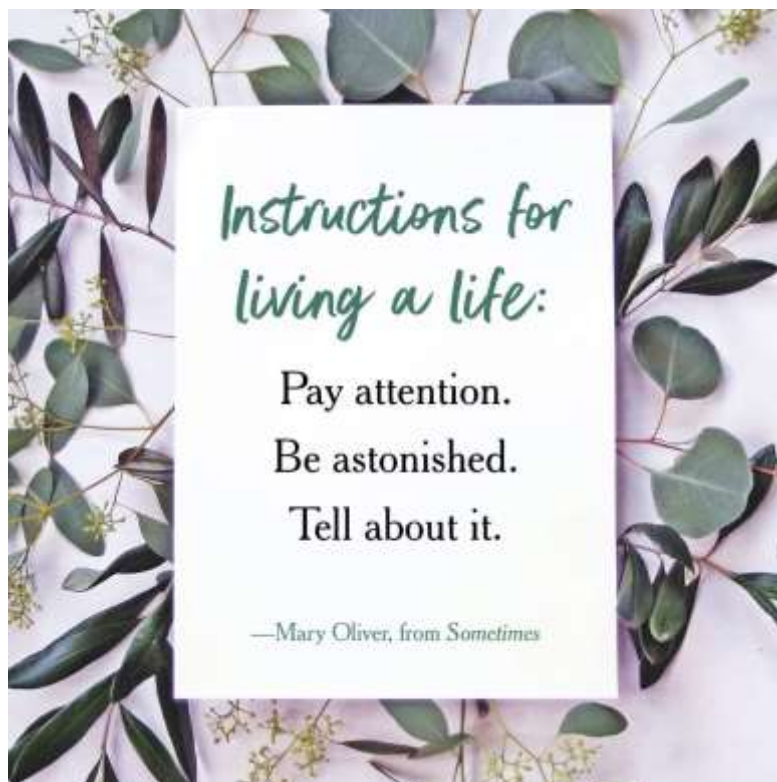
Welcome To Worship

December 5, 2021

9:30 a.m.

The Advent Of Our Lord Is Now... US!

~Ways of Resistance and Renewal~



Welcome to this time of being with God and each other.

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Second Sunday of Advent

Preparing To Worship...



The Advent Of Our Lord Is Now...US!
~Ways of Resistance and Renewal~

~ ~ ~

✧ Warm Welcome and Community News

✧ Reading Ourselves for Worship

Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!
Surely God is in this place,
Holy Ground!

✧ Becoming Present to God and Each Other...Our Check-in:

How Are You As You Arrive...how is it with your spirit?

~The Joy of Passing the Peace~

~ Sharing Wisdom of the Season ~

✧ Gathering as God's People: Our Theme (Based upon our theme and a Benedictine Blessing)

Pastor: The Advent of our Lord is now...*US!* Once again, Christ is about to be birthed...*within us.* And so it is: The season renews us, enabling us to recognize and resist that which is not life-giving, that not of God's deepest desires for us. Yes, this season of living into the mystery is a blessing!

All: The season blesses us with discomfort.

One: The season blesses us with anger.

All: The season blesses us with tears.

One: We are blessed with enough foolishness to believe that we make a difference in the world...beginning with our own lives; that we can do what others claim cannot be done: to bring justice and kindness to all our children and the poor...to ourselves and each other!

All: We shall not be left wanting for as we resist the ways of the world, we are renewed in the ways of mystery! It is the Advent of...US! Pay Attention! Be Astonished! Tell about it!



✧ Advent Candle Lighting: What are you *resisting* in order to be renewed?
~Gary Oleksyn is paying attention, is astonished, and tells us about it!~

✧ **Gathering Special Music Video –**

A Music Video: I Shall Not Want, Audrey Assad
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=12NMGC5YjYY>

✧ **Opening Ourselves to God's Grace**

✧ **Sharing Our Inner Most Lives With God** (Based on theme and Ann Weem's Kneeling in Bethlehem)

Holy One, too often my answer to the darkness is not running toward Bethlehem, but running away. I should know by now that I can't see where I'm going in the dark, shouldn't I?

Running away is rampant...separation is stylish.
Run and tranquilize, don't talk about it, avoid.
Run away and join all those who have already run away.

When am I going to learn, Lord, Christmas comes only when I turn and face the mystery of the darkness -- scary as that may be!? Only then will I be able to see the Light of the World.

So, this year let me do what Mary did and trust God to be in the unknown.
Let me do what Joseph did and listen to my dreams.
Let me do what the Wise Men did and go to worship.
Let me do what the shepherds did and praise and glorify You for all I've seen and heard!

I so long for the "quite enough" of Bethlehem in my life! May this season be the Advent of me! Holiness, may I find renewal as I resist the ways of the world and lean into the Holiness of daily life. May I pay attention, be astonished, and tell about it! I lean into the mystery of Your presence.



✧ You may wish to name with God a place of darkness in your life for which you seek light; or you may share with God a happening of “quite enough” in your life for which you are most thankful; or you may simply invite Jesus to come sit beside you shining his healing light all around and through you.

✧ **Tippe Kids’ Time**

✧ **Bible Wisdom Teachings**

Philippians 1:3-11
Baruch 4:36, 5:1-9
Luke 3:2c-6

One: This is the way our story is told. Spirit speaks to us anew through ancient stories.

All: Thanks be to our God.

~Slideshow~

✧ **Prompting**

The Advent Of The Lord Is Now...US!

“/Am Wondering...Both And?”

Rev. Karen S. Hagen

Do not comfort us. Inspire
us to resist apathy and
violence and insist on your
peace and wholeness in
our homes, our
communities, and our
world, always. Amen.

Shannon E. Sullivan
from WE PRAY WITH HER

✧ **Special Music Video: “Unpack Your Heart” Phillip Phillips & Dave Eggar**
<https://youtu.be/b7XOAAfl4NU>

✧ **Sharing Our Wisdom**

✧ **Affirming Our Faith with Intention...Our Prayer** (By I. Ahmed)

I'm not going to rush anything. I'm not going to stress out or worry about how things will work out for me. Instead of overthinking, I will align my faith with Divine timing and trust that everything that belongs in my life is making its way toward me right now. Holy Love permeates and inspires me.

✧ **Community Prayers, Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer**

(We share a version of the Lord's Prayer from the New Zealand Book of Prayer)

✧ **Quieting Ourselves for Prayer**

**Eternal Spirit, Life-giver, Pain-bearer, Love-maker,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of Your name echoes through the universe!
The way of Your justice be followed
by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, "in-courage" us.
From trials too great to endure, show us the way through.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For You reign in the glory of the power that is LOVE,
now and forever! Amen.**

✧ **Giving Thanks For Our Community...Our Sustaining Gifts!**

✧ ***Preparation of the Table**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: Lord God, as once You came to us in a stable in Bethlehem, You come now to our very hearts.

People: We open to the mystery that is Advent, that is Christ, that is God With Us...Emmanuel.

Pastor: *This* table: it is hope in our deserts, a straight path, a level way, a well where Holy love springs living waters. Quite enough!

People: This place: it is where life is offered and heaven is opened, where Jesus gathers us making us welcome.

Pastor: *This* moment: it enfolds our longing within an abundance of love, an overflowing of grace.

People: This promise: it turns water to wine, despair to celebration, broken body to heavenly host within us, birth to life and death to resurrection.

Pastor: *This* story: it saves the best till last! For even as we await the birth of Christ, we are Easter people! Gracious God, You fill us with eternal food, and we celebrate: You freely give of Yourself to each of us. You give of Your Holy Self to people throughout the world!

Friends, in this very place there is indeed quite enough love, joy, hope, and faith! Mystery surrounds us, beckons us, assures us we go not into the night, but toward a star...a star bringing light to our darkness, hope to our lives, freedom and confidence to our days.

As we open to the mystery that is God in love with each of us, all of us, let us join in giving God our praise as we affirm our faith, singing, twice...

“We walk not into the night! We walk but toward the star!”

✧ **Words of Invitation and the Breaking of the Bread**
Communion of the People

✧ **Benediction...*Becoming a Living Blessing***

May this day feed you and challenge you,
surprise and comfort you,
that you might have what you need
to be courageous, to be humble,
and to let your soul grow. enfleshed

What of this shared wisdom goes with you as helpful and life-giving? Or...

✧ **Our Response ...*Holy One, now we your servants go in peace. Your word lives on in us.***



Hear this service presented on Tippe Talk podcast, link on our website & Facebook.