

# ONLINE WORSHIP DECEMBER 6. 2020

## WE GATHER TOGETHER PRAISING GOD

Introductions and Invitations

Welcome & Welcoming Music

Responsive Reading

One: John the Baptist said, "Prepare the way." So family of faith, how do we prepare our minds for worship?

All: We silence the inner critic. We let go of busy thoughts. We make space for God to speak.

One: How do we prepare our hearts for worship?

All: We bless all emotions. We feel what we feel. We open ourselves up to be moved.

One: How do we prepare our bodies for worship?

All: We take in the scent, sight, and feel of our surroundings. We breathe in God's mercy. We exhale God's love.

One: How do we prepare our souls for worship?

All: We bring our full selves into this beloved gathering. We trust that even now, God is here.

Hymn #234

"O Come All Ye Faithful" (v. 1 - 3)

Affirmation of Faith (worship leader prays aloud)

We believe that a voice cried out in the wilderness,

Saying, "Prepare the way of the Lord."

And so, we show up for worship, even from our homes.

We march toward justice.

We roll up our sleeves.

We plant trees for our children.

We make art.

We choose hope.

We gather at the Table.

We set an extra plate.

We sing loudly, with joy.

We share stories and wisdom.

We celebrate children.

We fall together.

We rise together.

We love together.

We do all these things because we believe that God loves us so much that God shows up here.

So we prepare and prepare for that next beautiful day.

May it be so. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ (*greet fellow worshipers in the live chat as we sing song #2088 "*Lord I Lift Your Name on High")

Lighting the Advent Candle - Peace

Craig Roberts

Call to worship and Affirmation of Faith adapted from a prayer by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

### WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF G

Children In Ministry

Erich Grimm-Schmitt

Music To Lift Our Spirits

Scripture:

Mark 1:1-8

Message: "Preparations"

Pastor Lori Leopold

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE

Song of Prayer (we pray for God's guidance as we sing song #211 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel")

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer Offering of Gifts (*followed by*) Doxology (#94)

Prayer of Dedication (we read and pray aloud together)

O God, who restores and makes new, let these gifts prepare the way: for good news proclaimed, for people comforted, and for the earth tended. Through our giving, may all partake of an abundant yield of peace. We believe it will be so. Amen.

Communion

Hymn #249

"There's a Song in The Air" (v. 1, 2, & 4)

#### Benediction

And God will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand.

All are invited to share in virtual coffee time online via Zoom (may require app download).