

“For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into song.
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.”

Isaiah 55:12



Affton Presbyterian Church
3410 Lemay Ferry Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63125
314-631-9217 <https://afftonpc.org/>

December 13, 2020

Meet with us online or via phone at 10 am:
Look under “Updates” on our site to join online
or call 312-626-6799 and when prompted
enter the Meeting ID: 942 617 477 (followed by #).
When asks for a Participant ID number, dial #.
On the phone, dial *6 to mute or unmute yourself.
If asked for a password, enter 3410.

Service for the Lord's Day

Words of Welcome & Announcements

Advent Candle lighting (Hope, Peace and Joy) From the Book of Common Worship, PCUSA

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent means coming. We are preparing ourselves for the days when the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. *Isa. 2:4*

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. *Isa. 11:6*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. *Isa. 35:1*

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Advent video will play now.

Call to Worship

One: Be patient! The time is coming when we will celebrate the birth of Jesus,

Many: when we will sing and rejoice, dancing with everlasting joy.

One: But for now, be patient, as we wait in this time called Advent,

Many: when God speaks through dreams and visions, and we are invited to dance down the holy way into the kingdom.

One: For this is Advent, as we prepare to join the world in celebrating the Creator of goodness and hope,

Many: when those who limp will teach new dance steps, when the voiceless sing, 'Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming.'

Hymn #53

What Child Is This

Prayer of Confession

This season is supposed to be so holy, God of Christmas, yet the din of sales pitches turns us into cynical grumps. As we drive down the streets, the decorations on all the houses keep us from seeing the loneliness of the widower, the strained faces of those who fear the future. We are so determined to find just the right gift or card which speaks of joy, we forget that you came so long ago to offer justice to those who have none.

Be patient with us, God of our hearts, as we struggle to speak for the voiceless, to walk with those who have lost their way, to let go of our certainty of what really happened to long ago, and listen to the songs of children which speak of that peace which really can bring reconciliation, of that grace which really can offer hope, of that love which really can to us that night in Bethlehem, in the birth of Jesus, our Brother, our Savior. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Response ***“Gloria Patri”***

Passing the Peace

One: The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

Many: and also, with you.

One: Let us share a sign of Christ's peace.

Prayer of Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Scripture: Luke 1:26-45

Sermon: The Story of Three Wise Women Rev. Doug Mankell

Hymn #25 *Away in a Manger*

Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering Checks may be mailed to the church

Response of Praise "Doxology"

Prayer of Dedication:

We pray that with our gifts, as well as our lives, we will tell of those who are given voice, those who are put back on their feet, those who show us the way, and those who offer us grace and hope, as well. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn #44 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Charge and Benediction