

# ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10 a.m.

December 10, 2023

PRELUDE                    *"From Heaven Above to Earth I Come"*  
by Marin Luther/arr. Roger Wilson

INTROIT                    *"Prepare the Way of the Lord"*                    CUMC Adult Choir  
by Jacques Berthier

WELCOME ALL CHILDREN OF GOD

## GREETINGS

One: The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: The risen Christ is with us.

**All: Praise the Lord!**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of the Lord be with you

**All: And also with you**

One: Let us share God's love and peace with one another.

\*HYMN                    *"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"*                    UMH #224

## CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Prepare the path of God.

**All: We prepare by waiting with patience.**

One: Prepare the path of God.

**All: We prepare by living with faith and love.**

One: Prepare the path of God.

**All: We prepare by pursuing justice and peace.**

One: Prepare the path of God.

**All: We prepare, we wait, we pray.**

One: May God bless us with both patience and passion.

**All: We wait and pray to create the path of God.**

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING & MEDITATION                    The Aarseth Family

Reader 1: In days when God's people longed for peace, Isaiah declared, "Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins" (Isaiah 40:1).

Reader 2: We who gather today also seek comfort and peace, yet we are unsatisfied with ideas of peace that tell us to keep quiet and go with the flow. We long for real peace, true peace, just peace.

**Congregation: We wait as people who yearn for peace that bears the fruit of community, equity, and flourishing for all.**

Reader 1: We light these candles as signs of God's shocking hope and just peace. May they be beacons calling us to repent and to live the good news of Jesus Christ as we wait and watch and labor for the day when all people can gather together to worship and glorify God. Amen.

*Light two candles of the Advent wreath.*

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES                    *"Children's Message"*                    Rev. Sue H. Yun

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Loving Shepherd, gather us in your arms of love. Cover us with your mercy and grace, that injustices might be healed and transformed into righteousness, justice and peace for your world. Guide us to your path, what we may be people who both await and who create your path of peace, justice and love. Amen.**

## SILENT PRAYER

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God will feed you with goodness and grace. God will give you what is good: mercy and forgiveness, love and acceptance, an eternity of justice and peace.

## THE SCRIPTURES

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING                    Isaiah 40:1-11

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING                    Peter 3:8-15a

THE GOSPEL READING                    Mark 1:1-8

One: The Word of God for the people of God

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON                    *"Active Waiting"*                    Rev. Sue H. Yun

## INVITATION TO GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

**Almighty God, we enter this season from a chaotic world filled with violence, division, and injustice. We hear your prophet Isaiah promising comfort -- then John the Baptist calling us to construction projects. We are reminded we are called to**

