



SERVICE OF MIDDAY PRAYER FOR ADVENT

December 2, 2020

First Presbyterian Church

**ISAIAH'S SONG OF THE WILDERNESS**

OPENING SENTENCES

Our help is in the name of the Lord. Ps. 124:8  
**Maker of heaven and earth.**

The mountains and the hills Isa. 55:12  
Shall break forth into singing,  
**And all of the trees of the forest shall clap their hands.**

For behold, our Lord and Ruler is coming to reign forever.  
**Alleluia! Come, Lord Jesus.**

LIGHTING OF CANDLES

HYMN 108

*Of the Father's Love Begotten*

DIVINIUM MYSTERIUM

This is he whom seers in old time chanted of with one accord,  
whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word.  
Now he shines, the long-expected. Let creation praise its Lord,  
evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heaven, adore him. Angel hosts, his praises sing.  
Powers, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King.  
Let no tongue on earth be silent; every voice in concert ring,

evermore and evermore!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Dancing God,  
you exult over us with joy;  
as we celebrate what has past  
renew us by your love  
that we may face the future with hope and joy;  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who is alive with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God now and forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE      Isaiah 35:1-10

*Before the reading:*

As God has spoken through the prophets, now God speaks to us. Hear the word of the Lord. Lk1:70

*After the reading:*

This is the promise of God to our ancestors and to us. **Thanks be to God.** Lk1:72

CANTICLE: THE SONG OF THE WILDERNESS

Presbyterian Hymnal #18

*The Desert Shall Rejoice*

STERLING

1. The desert shall rejoice and blossom as a rose:  
It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with praise and singing.
2. The desert shall rejoice and blossom as a rose:  
For the ears of the deaf shall hear and the blind, their eyes be opened.
3. The desert shall rejoice and blossom as a rose:  
For the tongue of the mute shall sing and the lame will dance with gladness.
4. The desert shall rejoice and blossom as a rose:  
For the ground will become a pool and the dry land springs of water.
5. The desert shall rejoice and blossom as a rose:  
As the ransomed return to God and come singing back to Zion.

6. The desert shall rejoice and blossom as a rose:  
Unto Zion we come with joy, for our God has come to save us.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

HYMN 106

*Prepare the Way, O Zion*

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

1. Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!  
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.  
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.  
  
*Refrain:*  
**O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.**
2. He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.  
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.  
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding. [*Refrain*]
3. Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace,  
and tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.  
All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing. [*Refrain*]

BLESSING

Jesus says: I am coming soon.

Rev. 22:20

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

The God of peace be with us. **Amen.**

Bless the Lord. **The Lord's name be praised.**