



SERVICE OF MIDDAY PRAYER FOR ADVENT

December 23, 2020

First Presbyterian Church

THE SONG OF THE ANGELS

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

O Holy One,
heavenly angels spoke to earthly shepherds
and eternity entered time in the child of Bethlehem.
Through the telling of the Christmas story,
let our temporal lives be caught up in the eternal
in that same child,
that we might join shepherds and all the heavenly host
in praising the coming of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-14

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 ANGELS

Hymn 584

Glory, Glory, Glory

CUEQUITA

Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high!
Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high!
And on earth peace to all people in whom God is well pleased.
And on earth peace to all people in whom God is well pleased.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

HYMN 125

Before the Marvel of This Night

MARVEL

1. Before the marvel of this night, adoring, fold your wings and bow;
Then tear the sky apart with light and with your news the world endow.
Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace, that fear and death and sorrow cease;
Sing peace; sing peace; sing gift of peace; sing peace; sing gift of peace!

2. Awake the sleeping world with song; this is the day the Lord has made.
Assemble here, celestial throng, in royal splendor come arrayed.
Give earth a glimpse of heavenly bliss, a teasing taste of what they miss:
Sing bliss; sing bliss; sing endless bliss; sing bliss, sing endless bliss!

3. The love that we have always known, our constant joy and endless light,
Now to the loveless world be shown, now break upon its deathly night.
Into one song compress the love that rules our universe above:
Sing love; sing love; sing God is love; sing love; sing God is love!

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.**