

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 4, 2016

10:55 a.m.



Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2016

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Laboring God,
 with axe and winnowing fork
 you clear a holy space
 where hurt and destruction have no place,
 and a little child holds sway.
 Clear our lives of hatred and despair,
 sow seeds of joy and peace,
 that shoots of hope may spring forth
 and we may live in harmony
 with one another. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Prelude

F. R. Goodrich

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CANDLE LIGHTING

Genesis 1:1-5

The Advent wreath is a visible reminder of the Light that awaits us as we approach the miracle of Christmas. This circle of intertwined branches is a symbol of God's endless love and eternal grace. Each candle represents a pathway out of the darkness toward the light, and gives us time to reflect upon the true meaning of advent. The hope, peace, love and joy that we anticipate along the way are fulfilled by the birth of a child whose life touches the heart of every believer, and whose light will be the light of the world.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

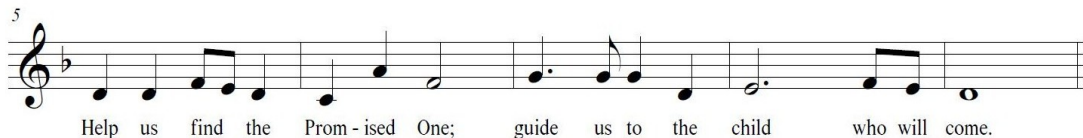
Those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them has light shined.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse

And a branch shall grow out of his roots.

And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest on him.

His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.



*CALL TO CONFESSION

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

*ADMITTING OUR BROKENNESS

**Holy God, we confess
that we do not walk in your light.
We hurt and destroy one another
and neglect the poor and hungry.
We let evil grow among us
and fail to bear good fruit.
Forgive us, God of grace.
Awaken us to your Word,
so that we may be ready
to welcome you with joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(Time of silent reflection)

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

*THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*SONG OF RESPONSE

Angels We Have Heard on High(refrain)

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TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

MOMENT FOR MISSION-Stewardship

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Page No. 558

ANTHEM

O Come, Emmanuel

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 3:1-12

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Page No. 784

MESSAGE

Light in the Darkness

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

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*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe that God has entrusted the church
with the message of reconciliation
in and through Jesus Christ.**

**We believe that the church is called
to be the salt of the earth
and the light of the world.**

**We believe that the church is called blessed
because it is a peacemaker.**

**We believe that the church is witness
both by word and by deed
to the new heaven and the new earth
in which righteousness dwells.**

Adapted from the Confession of Belhar

RECOGNITION OF FAITHFUL VOLUNTEERS-Bill and Norma Taylor

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

A Song of Hope

Stanley Westen

*DOXOLOGY

All Creation Join in Praising

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All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to the eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king!

DEDICATION PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

...Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal, p. 35

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE
COMMUNION MUSIC

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

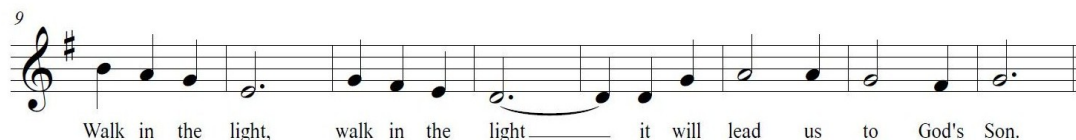
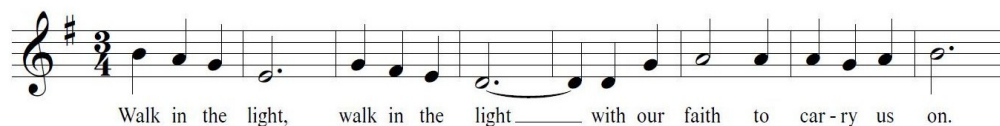
*SENDING SONG

Prepare the Way, O Zion

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*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE
CHORAL BENEDICTION



*POSTLUDE

Prepare the Way

Wilbur Held

*Please rise in body or spirit.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

Lectionary Readings for December 11: Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalms 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46b-55; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11.

The **Urban Mission** item of the month for December is peanut butter. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

Hearing-assistance devices and **large print hymnals** are available from the ushers.

Ushers for today's service are John and Susan Beck.

Communion servers for today's service are Melissa Gill and Loreen Upton.

Please join us for a **Christmas Potluck and pageant December 11th.**

Memorial Presbyterian will be continuing a tradition of Christmas giving again this year by supporting the families currently living in the Women's Resource Center of Norman, OK. A board with family member's information is located in the hallway nearest the south-east doors to the church (near the playground). If you would like to sponsor one or more individuals living in the shelter, please take one of the cards, purchase and wrap gifts from that card and return the wrapped gifts with the card to Tracy's office by Sunday, December 18th.

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| SUNDAY | December 4 |
| 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School | |
| 10:30 a.m. – Fellowship and Refreshments | |
| 10:55 a.m. – Worship Service with Communion | |
| TUESDAY | December 6 |
| 6:00 p.m. – M&E Meeting | |
| 7:00 p.m. – Christian Ed Meeting | |
| WEDNESDAY | December 7 |
| 3:15 p.m. – Kids' Club | |
| 4:00 p.m. – Children's Choir | |
| 6:30 p.m. – Chancel Choir | |
| SUNDAY | December 11 |
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| 10:30 a.m. – Fellowship and Refreshments | |
| 10:55 a.m. – Worship Service | |
| 5:30 p.m. – Christmas Pageant & Potluck | |