

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ

Second Sunday of Advent

10:30AM

The Birth ~ The Candle of Excitement

OPENING¹

CALL TO WORSHIP²

L: Hallelujah the Christ child comes,

P: And we await his birth.

L: Let us throw off our distractions,

P: And allow our chaos to settle.

L: Let us watch for the signs,

P: And listen to the messengers.

L: Let us focus on worship.

OPENING HYMN NO. 123 (black hymnal, see p. 3)

Mary, Woman of the Promise

CANDLELIGHTING³

**ALL SING (see p. 4): How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the glorious love of heaven. No one
discerns God's coming, but in this world of sin, Where yearning souls long
to be whole, the dear Christ enters in.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE (read by Robin Schriver)
MESSAGE

Luke 1: 26-46

HYMN (see p. 4)

Away in a Manger

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom
come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our
daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

ANTHEM

Advent Prayer

by Liebergen

TIME OF CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

SILENT CONFESSION⁴

Advent is a season of expectant waiting and preparation. We confess waiting in anticipation and not enjoying the increasing excitement. Our need for instant gratification consumes us, more than the excitement for what is to come. When wonder does arrive, we quickly look towards the next gift, adventure, thrill or event without enjoying what is present in our lives. We confess that we build expectations in our lives and are not grateful for daily gifts that surround us. Remind us that waiting is the means God often uses to carry his plans in our lives. May we remember as we wait, God strengthens our heart. You alone O God anticipate our sin and forgive us. Through Your grace, we are wonderfully renewed.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CLOSING⁵

POSTLUDE

Your Light Will Come Jerusalem

by Hurd

Thank you to Lee Brown for donating the Christmas tree in the sanctuary! Thank you to Hunter King, Ron Miles, Elaine Bevivino for serving on the tech team this morning. Thank you to Robin Schriver for reading Scripture and to Deb Herlocker for preaching the sermon this morning. Thank you to Brenda Beyer for leading the hymns this morning! Thank you to the members of the Advent Worship Team for planning today's service. The members are Danika Dallam, Elaine Bevivino, Paula Strayer, David Firestone, Jen Cooper, Deb Herlocker, Travis Pinci, Denny Daugherty, & Pastor Danielle.

¹ Written by Deb Herlocker, voice over by Olivia Daugherty, video of Reid Ensminger

² The call to worship was written by David Firestone.

³ The text for the candlelighting was written by Jen Cooper.

⁴ The silent confession was written by Danika Dallam and Paula Strayer.

⁵ The closing was written by Deb Herlocker, voice over by Olivia Daugherty, and the poem "Happy Birthday," is by Lamanda K. Strong

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Mary, Woman of the Promise

Grand Piano 

1. Mar - y wom - an of the prom - ise;
 2. Mar - y, song of ho - ly wis - dom
 3. Mar - y, morn - ing star of jus - tice;
 4. Mar - y, mod - el of com - pas - sion;
 5. Mar - y, wom - an of the gos - pel;

5 

ves - el of your peo - ple's dreams:
 sung be - fore the world be - gan:
 mir - ror of the Ra - diant Light:
 wound - ed by your off - spring's pain:
 hum - ble home for trea - sured seed:

9 

Through your o - pen, will - ing spir - it
 Faith - ful to the Word with - in you,
 In the shad - ows of life's jour - ney,
 When our hearts are torn by sor - row,
 Help us to be true dis - ci - ples,

13 

wa - ters of God's good - ness streamed.
 as you bore God's won - drous plan.
 be a bea - our for our sight.
 teach us how to love a - gain.
 bear - ing fruit in word and deed.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is given! So

6
God im - parts to hu - man hearts the glo - ri - ous love of heaven. No one disc - erns God's

11
com - ing, but in this world of sin, Where yearn - ing souls long to be whole, the

16
dear Christ en - ters in.

Away in a Manger

Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

1. A - way in a man - ger no crib for a bed,
2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the Ba - by a - wakes,
3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

5
the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head;
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
close by me for - ev - er, and love me, I pray.

9
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love thee, Lord Je - sus, look down from the sky
Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

13
the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
and fit us for heav - en, to live with thee there.