



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship December 26, 2021 9:30am
The First Sunday of Christmas

Gathering

SONG TO GATHER

“Noel”
Praise Team

by Lauren Daigle

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Sue Trigger

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We are here because we have heard a promise of peace

ALL: We have faith its day will come

ONE: We have heard a rumor of justice, and we have faith its day will come

ALL: We have heard a whisper of hope, and we have faith its day will come

ONE: We have heard a hint of love, and we have faith its day will come

ALL: We have heard of the birth of the Christ-child, and we have faith his day is here.

ONE: Welcome to Christmas

ALL: Welcome to worship!

*CAROL SING

4 carols - 1st verse only

Rev. Sue Trigger

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

TIME WITH STEWART

SONG OF PRAYER

“The Wexford Carol”

IRISH FOLK MELODY

Kate Trigger Duffert, vocal solo – Cal Sweeten, hammered dulcimer

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*responsive*)

ONE: On this second day of Christmas, as another year draws to a close, we come together before God and with one another, confessing:

ALL: the ways in which we have been caught up in the frenzied spirit of the holidays and turned away from your spirit of peace; the times we have focused so much on our own lives and desires that we have neglected the voices of your children who cry out for Justice; in our focus on making the season perfect, we have turned away from the hurting people and broken places in our world in need of healing; in the times we have dismissed Christmas as a time only for children, and we have stubbornly closed our hearts to your amazing gift of love. O holy child of Bethlehem, word become flesh, our Savior and king, hear us as we humbly pray. Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE & SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you and all others!

Equipping

SONG TO REFLECT

“When Hope Came Down”

Praise Team

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Colossians 3:12–17

(CEB)

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“The Legend of Old Belfana”

Rev. Sue Trigger

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sending

*CAROL SING

4 carols – 1st verse only

Rev. Sue Trigger

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*HYMN 144

“In the Bleak Midwinter”
verse 4

CRANHAM

SONG TO SEND

Carrie DeVries, piano

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

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