

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship for December 12, 2021

Third Sunday in Advent Celebrating Joy

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude –

Call to Worship

Rejoice in the Lord always.

I will say it again: Rejoice!

Let your gentleness be evident to all.

The Lord is near.

We rejoice in the hope of Christ's coming.

Let us worship God!

—based on Philippians 4:4-5, NIV

Anthem

Lighting the Advent Candle

Sara Swepston and Cindy Williams

Watch and wait for Christ's coming!

Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love,
remembering the promises of God with prayer.

We light this candle in hope.

We light this candle for peace.

We light this candle in joy!

A reading from Zephaniah

The LORD, your God, is in your midst,

a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing
as on a day of festival.

Let us pray:

Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust and not be afraid,
for the LORD is my strength and my might;
God has become my salvation.
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
And you will say in that day:
Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I say, Rejoice!
Sing praises to the LORD, for God has done gloriously!

Our Response **He Came Down**

**He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy,
Hallelujah forevermore.**

Call to Confession

We cannot come before God
unless we are first honest with ourselves
about who we are, about the mistakes we make,
and about how well or poorly we care for others.
In this spirit, let us offer our prayers to God.

Prayer of Confession

**God of salvation, in Christ you have done great things—
our hearts are filled with joy.**

**By your power you lifted us out of the wasteland of sin
and brought us with joy and laughter into your kingdom.**

Salvation is your gift to us.

**But we confess that often we try to replace your gift with our own
efforts.**

We try to complete what is already perfect;

we try to add to what is already full;

we try to earn what we already have.

Forgive us for our foolishness. Help us to focus on your grace.

Help us to live grateful lives in return.

For Jesus' sake alone, Amen.

—based on Psalm 126

Silent Confession

(A time of silence will be observed for personal confession.)

Assurance of Pardon

The days are surely coming, says the Lord,
when I will fulfill the promise I made
to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

In those days and at that time I will cause
a righteous Branch to spring up for David;
and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety.

And this is the name by which it will be called:

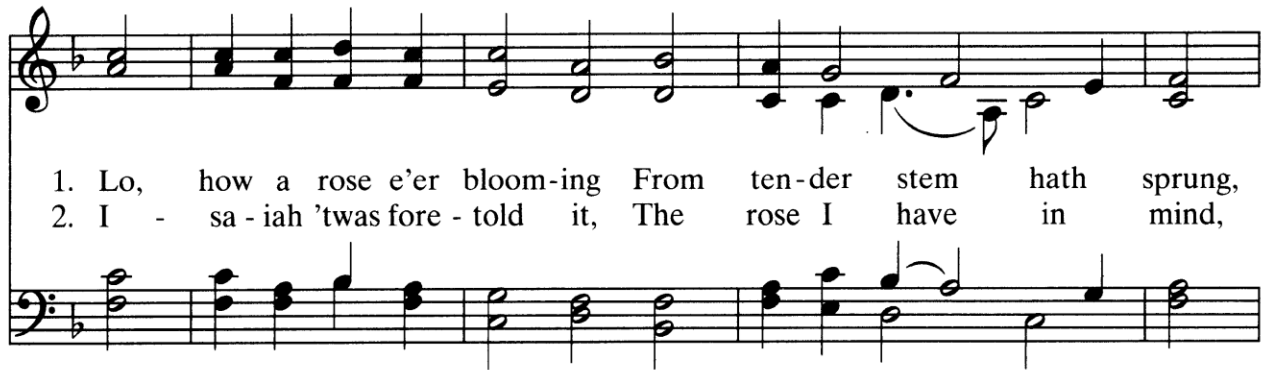
“The Lord is our righteousness.”

People of God: Jesus Christ, our Lord,

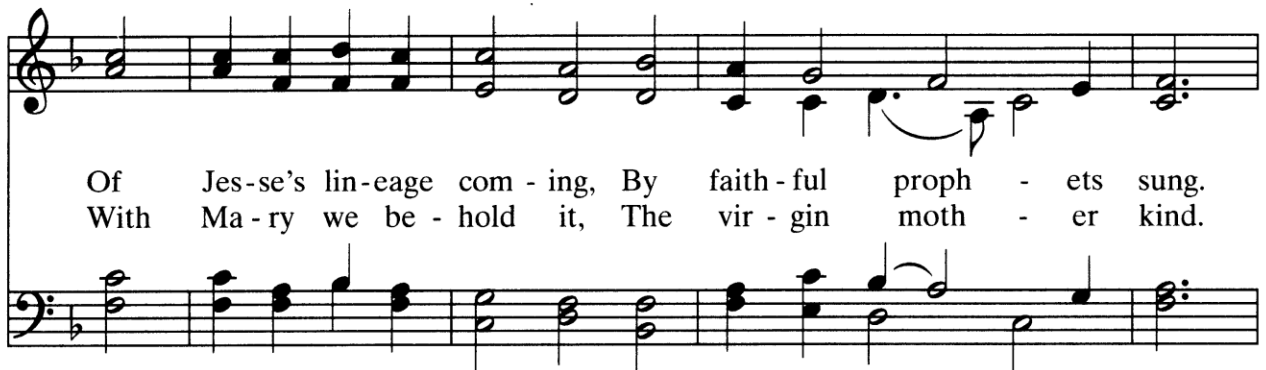
whose coming we announce in this season, is our righteousness.
In Christ, we are made right with God.
Thanks be to God!
—based on Jeremiah 33:14-16, NRSV

Sharing Our Faith with Our Children

*Hymn Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming



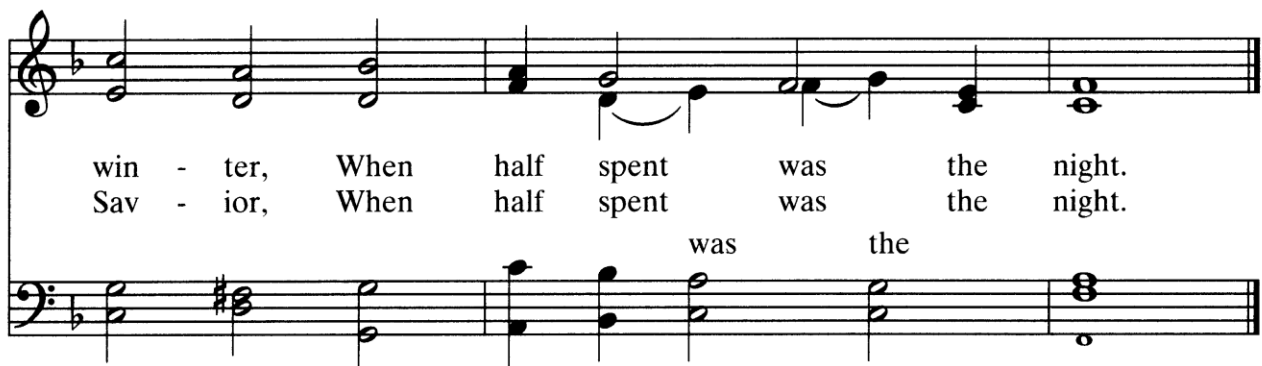
1. Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing From ten-der stem hath sprung,
2. I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in mind,



Of Jes-se's lin-eage com - ing, By faith - ful proph - ets sung.
With Ma - ry we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er kind.



It came a flower - et bright, A - mid the cold of
To show God's love a - right She bore for us a



win - ter, When half spent was the night.
Sav - ior, When half spent was the night.
was the

² Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not
be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength
and my might;
he has become my salvation.

³ With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. ⁴ And you
will say in that day:

Give thanks to the LORD,
call on his name;
make known his deeds among
the nations;
proclaim that his name is
exalted.

⁵ Sing praises to the LORD, for he
has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the
earth.

⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy,
O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the
Holy One of Israel.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

*Hymn **Good Christian Friends Rejoice**

1. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi - ce With heart, and soul, and voice;
 2. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi - ce With heart, and soul, and voice;
 3. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi - ce With heart, and soul, and voice;

Give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 Now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 Now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

Ox and ass be - fore Him bow, And He is in the man - ger now.
 He hath o - pened heav - en's door, And we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all To gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory –

*Doxology (Hymn 592)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

*Sending Forth and Benediction

*Choral Response

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain:

**Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills, and ev'rywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.**

**While shepherds kept their watching
o’er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light.**

Refrain:

Postlude

Liturgist: Wayne Williams

Soloist: Jessica Starcher

Head Deacons: Al Brown & Cindy Williams

Pastor: Rev. Jennifer A. Baer

Music Director: Pamela Carroll

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The flowers today are dedicated to the glory of God in memory of Janet M. Givens. Given by: Clarence Givens