



Pilgrim Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Service of Worship
December 4, 2022
Second Sunday of Advent

MUSIC IN TODAY'S SERVICE LICENSED FOR STREAMING/PODCAST by OneLicense

- PRELUDE: Wachet Auf — JS Bach
- GATHERING SONG: Dona Nobis Pacem
- OPENING HYMN: With Joy Draw Water *
- ANTHEM: Maranatha, Lord Messiah — Kathy Powell
- OFFERTORY:
The Peace of the Earth — John L. Bell
- COMMUNION HYMN:
Jesus is Here Right Now*
- HYMN: Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty
- POSTLUDE:
People Look East — arr. Robert Lau

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Today's service will be recorded.



PILGRIM
Congregational Church



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



**Welcome to Pilgrim
Congregational Church, UCC
A Welcoming, Open and Affirming Congregation**

Mission Statement

*A welcoming home to all
spiritual seekers
Making a difference in our world,
By fusing our Christian faith with
everyday life and
Serving God by serving others.*

Statement of Welcome

*We honor the Biblical call to love one another as God
first loved us. We welcome into the full life and
ministry of the church all people of any race,
nationality, religious background, educational
background, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation,
marital status, economic status, and physical, mental,
and emotional abilities.*

Children at Pilgrim

Children are an important part of our worshipping community. We try to make them feel at home! All are welcome. Professional childcare for infants and toddlers is available in Pilgrim Hall from 10:15 to the end of the service.

Visual and Hearing Aids

Hearing devices may be picked up from the table in the narthex.
Large Print bulletins and
Sermons texts are available.

Pilgrim Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
Service of Worship – December 4, 2022
Second Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

Wachet Auf – JS Bach

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Reebee Girash and Sarah Jane Fuller

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Griffin Momsen-Hudson

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

GATHERING SONG

Dona Nobis Pacem

*LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Elizabeth Chen and Rich Edmiston

One: We light these candles as people of hope.

One: We light these candles as peace makers.

All: Peace to this house, and every home.

One: Let us pursue peace with everyone we meet,

All: As we follow the Christ-child's way of peace.


One: And may mercy, peace and love be ours in abundance this Advent.

OPENING PRAYER


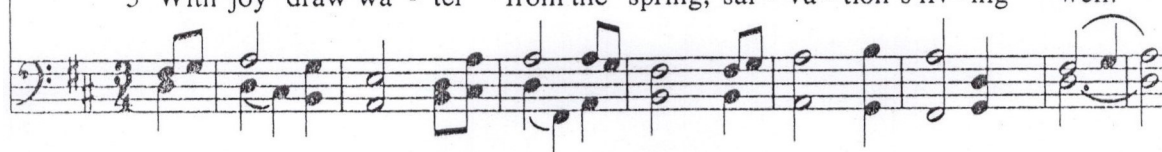
Loving God, we give you thanks for the season of Advent that reminds us that your love stopped at nothing to save us and claim us as your own. Keep us awake during this season so that we may be able to receive all that your Holy Spirit wants to offer us. Speak to us now. Fill us with your peace and your grace. Let us leave here a changed people willing and ready to be your peace in the world. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

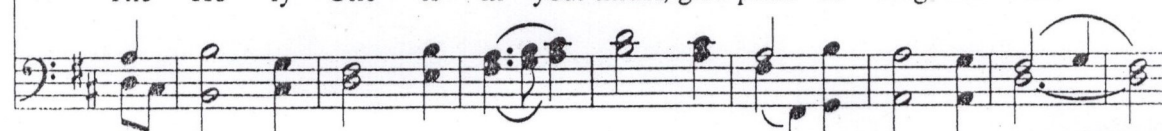
With Joy Draw Water – Black Hymnal 109



1 With joy draw wa - ter from the spring; sal - va - tion's liv - ing well.
2 A shoot has sprung from Jes-se's tree; of God the cho-sen One.
3 With love the poor will be re - ceived; the proud will turn a - side;
4 The wolf shall lie down with the lamb; the calf and li - on play.
5 With joy draw wa - ter from the spring; sal - va - tion's liv - ing well.



The Ho - ly One is in your midst; glad prais - es sing and tell!
A branch of knowl-edge and of truth; a gift of love has come!
And faith - ful - ness will be a path, and righ-teous-ness the guide!
God's peace shall dwell with - in the land; a child shall show the way!
The Ho - ly One is in your midst; glad prais - es sing and tell!



This text combines images from two Advent readings from the book of Isaiah, including the passage anticipating the reign of peace. The author, Anne McKinstry, has served as a writer-in-residence at Otis United Church of Christ in

Tune: ST. COLUMBA altered to 8.6.8.6.
Irish traditional melody
Harm. Charles V. Stanford, 1906

1 With joy draw water from the spring; salvation's living well.
The holy One is in your midst; glad praises sing and tell!

2 A shoot has spring from Jesse's tree; of God the chosen One.
A branch of knowledge and of truth; a gift of love has come!

3 With love the poor will be received; the proud will turn aside;
And faithfulness will be a path, and righteousness the guide!

4 The wolf shall lie down with the lamb; the calf and lion play.
God's peace shall dwell with-in the land; a child shall show the way!

5 With joy draw water from the spring; salvation's living well.
The Holy One is in your midst; glad praises sing and tell!



SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'" ⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem

and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

One: Here end the readings. Hear what the Spirit of God is saying to the church.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Maranatha, Lord Messiah—Kathy Powell
Duncan Todd, John Girash, Zac Girash, and Max Evrard

SERMON

Rev. Reebee Girash

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Reebee Girash

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Reebee Girash

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Rev. Reebee Girash

OFFERTORY

The Peace of the Earth—John L. Bell

***DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

or

**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**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Rev. Reebee Girash



*COMMUNION HYMN

Jesus Is Here Right Now – Black Hymnal 348

Je - sus is here right now. Je - sus is

Somewhat detached throughout

here. With this bread and wine true peace you'll

find; Christ Je - sus is here right now. (right now).

to beginning *Last time, end*

Jesus is here right now. Jesus is here.
With this bread and wine true peace
you'll find;
Christ Jesus is here right now.
(right now).

Composer Leon C. Roberts is perhaps best known for his "Mass of St. Augustine" and other liturgical compositions that appear in Lead Me, Guide Me: The African-American Catholic Hymnal. His work is greatly influenced by priest and composer Clarence Joseph Rivers.

Tune: JESUS IS HERE 6.4.5.4.6.
Leon C. Roberts, 1986

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Our service of communion is open to all who wish to participate. The sacrament is a gift from God, and all are welcome to receive it.

THE SERVICE OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and Loving God, we give thanks for the promise of this sacred Season and for the peace and joy we find in the Christ Child. Yet even as we rejoice, we recognize that we often fail to live with the hope of redemption. We fail to make peace. We lose focus on the one who is the Source of our joy. Forgive us, God, and restore our hope in you.

We pray with the words Jesus taught, saying:

Our Father (Creator), 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

COMMUNION PRAYER

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION MUSIC

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace— arr. Jane Holstein

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Powerful Redeemer, for the miracle of this table we are thankful. For the blessings of forgiveness, reconciliation and community, we rejoice. Renew your love's power in us, that we might share these blessings with our neighbors. Amen.

*HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty— Red Hymnal 114

1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; Behold, the King of glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near; The Savior of the world is here!

2 Fling wide the portals of your heart; Make it a temple, set apart
From earthly use for heaven's employ, Adorned with prayer and love and joy.

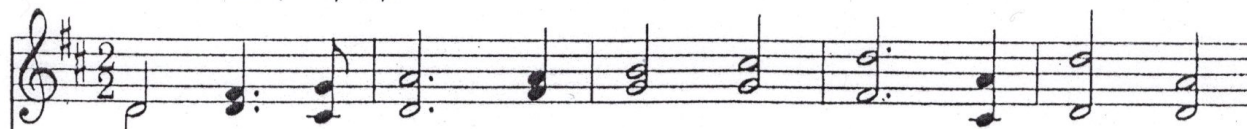
3 Redeemer, come, I open wide; My heart to thee; here, Lord abide!
Let me thy inner presence feel; Thy grace and love in me reveal.

4 So come, my Sovereign; enter in! Let new and nobler life begin;
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on, Until the glorious crown be won. Amen

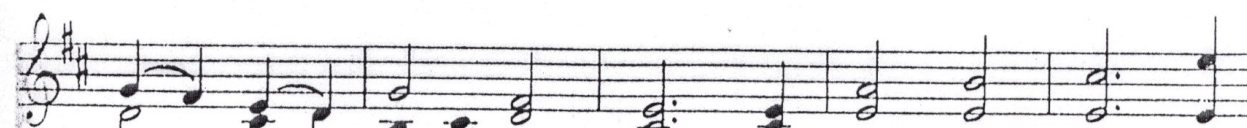
Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Based on Psalm 24
 Georg Weissel, 1590-1635
 Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878

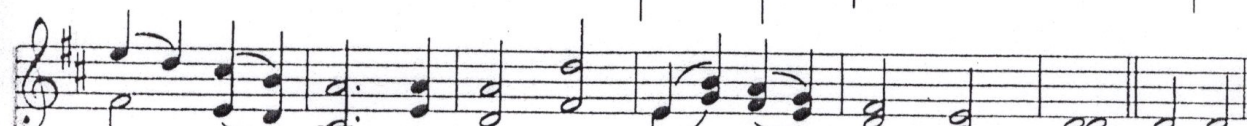
TRURO L.M.
 Thomas Williams', "Psalmody Evangelica," 1789



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; Be - hold the
 2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make it a
 3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide My heart to
 4 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and



King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is
 tem - ple, set a - part From earth - ly use for
 thee; here, Lord, a - bide! Let me thy in - ner
 no - bler life be - gin; Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



draw - ing near; The Sav - ior of the world is here.
 heaven's em - ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 pres - ence feel; Thy grace and love in me re - veal.
 guide us on, Un - til the glo - rious crown be won. A - men.

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Reebee Girash

POSTLUDE

People Look East – arr. Robert Lau

**Please be in a posture of praise.*

SOURCE NOTES

The opening prayer is adapted from Rev. Liz Aguilar. The Communion Liturgy is from Feasting on the Word. Cover photo titled 'Peaceable Kingdom' by John August Swanson

<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56556>)

Advent candle image by Lauren Plummer, *Advent Candle*.

(<http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57464>)

THANK YOU

A special thank you to our Greeter, Bob Beckwith, our Zoom host, Mike Stevens, our Liturgist, Griffin Momsen-Hudson, our Advent candle lighters, Elizabeth Chen and Rich Edmiston, our social time hosts, Lesley Morrison and Susan Moffitt, and our youth for bringing the elements forward.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 10 – Carols and Cocoa for a Cause 4pm

December 11 – Mitten Tree Sunday 10:30am

December 18 – Pageant and Special Music 10:30am

December 21 – Longest Night 6pm Zoom; 7pm in Person

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service 6pm

December 25 – Christmas Hymn Sing 10:30am

Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC

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Sunday Worship 10:30 am