The Gifts of God: Faith

December 6th, 2020

1st Sunday of Advent

**Chimes**

**Greeting**

**L:** Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;

break forth, O mountains, into singing!

**P:** For the Lord has comforted his people,

and will have compassion on his suffering ones.

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Sharing the Life of the Church**

* Announcements

**\*Advent Candle Lighting (Video)**

**\*Opening Hymn** Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates UMH #213

**\*Opening Prayer**

God of winter and starlight, you have promised us your presence: to live among us, to right all wrongs, to bring good things to all who wait for your new day. In these dark days, we look for signs of your coming: the sounds of children at play, the music that fills our hearts with anticipation, the company of all who serve the last and the least. Make us at home with righteousness, that we may be ready to walk in your holy ways. Amen.

**Children’s Moments**

**Special Music**

**Scripture Psalm 85**

1 Lord, you were favorable to your land;

you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

2 You forgave the iniquity of your people;

you pardoned all their sin.

3 You withdrew all your wrath;

you turned from your hot anger.

4 Restore us again, O God of our salvation,

and put away your indignation toward us.

5 Will you be angry with us forever?

Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

6 Will you not revive us again,

so that your people may rejoice in you?

7 Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,

and grant us your salvation.

8 Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,

for he will speak peace to his people,

to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

9 Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,

that his glory may dwell in our land.

10 Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;

righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

11 Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,

and righteousness will look down from the sky.

12 The Lord will give what is good,

and our land will yield its increase.

13 Righteousness will go before him,

and will make a path for his steps. [[1]](#footnote-1)

 **Response:**

L: The word of God for the people of God.

 **P: Thanks be to God!**

**Message** The Gifts of God: Peace!

**\*Response** Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown UMH #386

**Prayer Time**

* *Sharing Joys and Concerns*
* *Prayer Song Emmanuel UMH #204*
* *Pastoral Prayer*

**Holy Communion**

* *Lord’s Prayer:* ***Our Father, which 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.***

**Offering**

* *Offertory Sentence:* Lord, as you have shined the light of your love into our lives; may the same brightness of your love be revealed as we receive this morning’s offering.
* *Offertory*
* *Doxology:* ***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise, God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***
* *Offertory Prayer: Giver of the most precious Gift of all, we return to you this day our thanks represented in these gifts and in the lives of all these dear people. Bless these gifts and all these people that they may be lights of your love in our dark world. AMEN.*

**\*Closing Hymn** Good Christian Friends, Rejoice UMH #224

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

1. [*The Holy Bible: New Revised Standard Version*](https://ref.ly/logosres/nrsv?ref=BibleNRSV.Ps85.1&off=0&ctx=orahites.+A+Psalm.+%0a~1+Lord%2c+you+were+fav). (1989). (Ps 85:1–13). Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)