

Welcome

PINNACLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 10, 2023 | 10:00 am

Second Sunday of Advent

Prelude

Pastorale

César Franck

Benjamin Sidoti, organ

Words of Welcome

Wes Avram

Lighting of the Candle of PEACE

The Steppig Family

No. 95

Prepare the Way of the Lord
(first sung by the Quartet, then by All)

**Prepare the way of the Lord.
Prepare the way of the Lord,
And all people will see
The salvation of our God.**

We light again the candle of hope and add the candle of peace.

The God we worship is not far from us.

We can clear the way for God to come and dwell with us.

Opening the door for God to heal what is broken and mend relationships.

As we light this candle,
All: **we pray for holy peace.**
Come now, our Great Comfort.
All: **Come now, O Prince of Peace.**

***Opening Hymn**

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

No. 87

1 **“Comfort, comfort now my people;
tell of peace!” So says our God.**

**“Comfort those who sit in darkness
mourning under sorrow’s load.**

**To my people now proclaim
that my pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their sins I cover,
and their warfare now is over.”**

2 **For the herald’s voice is crying
in the desert far and near,
calling us to true repentance,
since the reign of God is here.**

**O, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way.
Let the valleys rise in meeting
and the hills bow down in greeting.**

cont'd ►

3 Straight shall be what long was crooked,
and the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble,
as befits God's holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
now on earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token
that God's word is never broken.

Call to Confession

Leah Quarles

Common Confession and Assurance (unison)

Leah Quarles

O Lord, our world-making God. Forgive us when we fail to see your inbreaking kingdom. Forgive us when we fall short of your kingdom ideal. Cause us to see that you came to us in Jesus the Christ. Give us hope in your advent. Come in power, majesty, and glory. Come in humility, poverty, and meekness. Come Lord Jesus, our Emmanuel, God with us. Now hear our silent prayers of confession. (silence)

*Congregational Response (unison)

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

No. 654

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful;
in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God; do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.
Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

*Passing of the Peace

Leah Quarles

One: The peace of our Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.

Children's Message

Leah Quarles

Sacrament of Baptism

Leah Quarles

Wright Paul

Susan Matura, Assisting Elder
Child of Taylor & Reed Davis

Children pre-K-8th Grade leave for Church School.
9th-12th Grade Youth will remain in worship with their families.
Nursery is available.

*Baptism Hymn

Baptized in Water

No. 482, vs. 1-3

1 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ our King;
heirs of salvation,
trusting the promise,
faithfully now God's praises we sing.

2 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ our King;
one with his rising,
freed and forgiven,
thankfully now God's praises we sing.

**3 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our King;
born of the Spirit,
we are God's children;
joyfully now God's praises we sing.**

Our Common Life

Wes Avram

For those joining us online, you may make your donation by texting
pinnaclepres to 833-245-8445 or online at pinnaclepres.org/give-now

Offertory

Musical Offering

Keep Your Lamps!

arr. André Thomas

Quartet: Schae Chapman, Samantha Jorgensen, Thomas Strawser, and
Brady Larson, Ilona Kubiacyk-Adler, director
Benjamin Sidoti, percussion

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning;
keep your lamps trimmed and burning;
keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
the time is drawing nigh.*

*Children, don't get weary,
Children, don't get weary,
Children, don't get weary,
'til your work is done.*

*Christian journey soon be over,
Christian journey soon be over,
Christian journey soon be over,
The time is drawing nigh.*

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning;
keep your lamps trimmed and burning;
keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
the time is drawing nigh.*

*Doxology (*REGENT SQUARE*) (unison)

No. 143

**All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to the eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king!**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Wes Avram

Scripture Reading

Mark 1:1-8

Michael Hegeman

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Spoiler Alert: It's God Who's Coming

Michael Hegeman

*Hymn

While We Are Waiting, Come

No. 92

Common Prayer, Lord's Prayer (unison)

Wes Avram

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 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.

*Closing Hymn

Prepare the Way, O Zion

No. 106

1 Prepare the way, O Zion,
your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley
a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory,
foretold in sacred story.
Refrain:
O blest is Christ who came
in God's most holy name.

2 He brings God's rule, O Zion;
he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom,
and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding,
for grace and joy abounding.
Refrain:
O blest is Christ who came
in God's most holy name.

3 Fling wide your gates, O Zion;
your Savior's rule embrace,
and tidings of salvation
proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow rejoicing,
their adoration voicing.
Refrain:
O blest is Christ who came
in God's most holy name.

*Charge & Benediction

Michael Hegeman

*Sending Music

Toccata in d BuxWV 155
Ilona Kubiacyk-Adler, organ

D. Buxtehude

*Please rise.

Scripture

Mark 1:1-8

John the Baptist Prepares the Way

1 The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God,
2 as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

“I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way”—

3
“a voice of one calling in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.’”

4 And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
5 The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

6 John wore clothing made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

7 And this was his message: “After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.

8 I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

New Revised Standard Version Updated (NRSV)

Notes of Interest

Ushers are Colby Barritt, Brooke Davis, Laurel Davis, Adam Rogers, and Mark Steel; **Head Usher** is Lily Rogers.

Hospitality members are Renee & Jed Schenck.

The Flowers are given by Mary Upchurch in loving memory of James, and in honor of what would have been their 35th wedding anniversary, and by Nancy Conover in memory of my husband, Hollis M. Conover, Jr.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for the following members & friends:

- For my sister, Irene, and her family;
- For Brenda, having surgery and fighting cancer;
- For Shane, deploying overseas in the Army;
- For Bill, going through chemo treatments;
- For Luke, with cancer;
- For all students, entering exam season, for calm and a strong presence of God;
- For a family's safety due to their business being damaged and subject of theft;
- For our healthcare workers, first responders, and local and federal government workers who are serving our communities;
- For the people of Haiti and Harmony Ministries;
- For our men and women in the military.

To add your prayer requests to the Pinnacle prayer list, please email prayer@pinnaclepres.org or call 480.585.9448.

If you would like to join our prayer request email list to receive a weekly list of people needing your prayers and monthly prayer guidelines, please send your name and email to prayer@pinnaclepres.org.