



United Presbyterian Church

1701 East Second Street Bloomington, Indiana 47401

Sunday, December 11, 2022

Speaker

Reverend Susan McGhee

Executive Presbyter – Presbytery of Ohio Valley

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United Presbyterian Church Worship Guide
December 11, 2022 – Third Sunday of Advent



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Elder Allen Pease

PRELUDE *Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Candle of Joy – Fadi & Aline Haddad

CALL TO WORSHIP

Deacon Fadi Haddad, liturgist

Liturgist: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Liturgist: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus

People: it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

***Opening Hymn**

#1 Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison with Liturgist)

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression.

Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Liturgist)

People of God, hear the good news! As far as the East is from the West, so far does God remove our sin from us. In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven!



PASSING OF THE PEACE

Liturgist: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Liturgist: Let us share the peace with one another.

The Old Testament Lesson *Isaiah 35:1-10* (Pew Bible p. 547; Large Print p. 1103) Liturgist

The Gospel Lesson *Luke 1:39-55* (Pew Bible p. 782; Large Print p. 1575) Pastor

Reverend: The word of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God**



Sermon

Walking the Holy Way

The Reverend Susan McGhee

MUSIC for MEDITATION *Ave Verum Corpus – Mozart* Presbyterian Quartet

AFFIRMATION of FAITH – Colossians 1:15-20 led by Rev. McGhee

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation;

in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible.

All things have been created through him and for him.

He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

He is head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Elder Don Root

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.

CALL TO OFFERING

Elder Don Root

***Closing Hymn** #34 In Bethlehem a Babe Was Born

CHARGE AND BLESSING

Reverend Susan McGhee

POSTLUDE

On this Day, Earth Shall Ring Dr. Benjamin Watkins

*Stand if you are able

Immediately after service, Rev. McGhee will oversee a very brief Congregational Meeting

UPC Prayer List - Email requests to: upcbloomington@gmail.com.

The Heitink family as they mourn the sudden death of Vera's sister Agnes Termacen

Yoshi & Ihoko Yoshida Shea Henry Olivia McKenzie Nora vander Heijden

Cathy Junken Rev. David Rosen Anita Steverson Berta Wenneker

Specialized ministries in the Presbytery of Ohio Valley – We pray for those members of our Presbytery who have been called to ministries outside the local parish setting, including those serving in hospitals or hospice care, in institutions caring for older adults or persons with disabilities, in campus ministries, at centers providing resources for congregations, at camp and conference centers and offering pastoral/spiritual care to pastors and their families. The

POV is fortunate to have so many such ministers in our midst, as they also offer pulpit supply and sacramental leadership in our congregations, moderate sessions without pastors, and contribute their gifts on presbytery committees and commissions. We are grateful for their energy, intelligence, imagination, and love!

It's back!
The Worship Team
Invites You To The
7th Annual Spaghetti Dinner
& Silent Auction
Wednesday, December 14
6 to 8 p.m. — Fellowship Hall



Benefit UPC's Music Program.

Tossed Salad!
Spaghetti with Marinara! Spaghetti with Meat Sauce!
Fettuccini Alfredo!
Garlic Bread! Homemade Desserts
Coffee, Ice Tea and Milk.
Celebrity Chefs!
UPC Christian Ed Director Melanie Mathis-McBride
UPC Music Director Benjamin Watkins

Silent Auction! – See Allen if you'd like to donate an item(s)

If you'd like to donate a dessert, homemade if possible! See Allen.

Tickets: \$10 adults \$5 children ten and under
United Presbyterian Church — 1701 E. Second Street — Bloomington

UPC will be receiving the annual PC(USA) Christmas Joy Offering
on Sunday, December 25, 2022 and on January 2, 2023.

50% of your gifts open doors which lead to relief for church workers and their families when critical needs arise. 50% of your gifts open doors of opportunity which lead to hopeful futures for young people at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.