Westminster By-The-Sea Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Sumner The Rev. Dr Radford Rader November 28, 2021

### First Sunday of Advent

# Gathering

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PRELUDE

#### "Veni Emmanuel"

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

Kristin Downer and Payton Bonino

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE **Congregational Response** "He Came Down" He came down that we may have faith. He came down that we may have faith. He came down that we may have faith. Hallelujah, forevermore."

PRAYER

(Unison)

God of glory: we gather in wonder with what may be happening in the days ahead. Keep us faithful in waiting and watching we pray. And grant us your peace. Amen.

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" **HYMN** Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

#### CALL TO PRAYER

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we aspire to love and trust you, but so often we get in the way of ourselves. We see only the deep sadness of the world; we fear things will never get better. We fail to see the light that shines in the darkness and the good at work in this world. We have come close to giving up that you will ever come in glory and redeem your creation. Save us, Lord! Renew

Elder Anne Nussle

Dr. Rader

Barr

Hyfrydol

(Unison)

#### our faith so we face the world filled with hope and live in the power of the resurrected and reigning Christ. Amen

#### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

"Hear the Good News of Salvation" Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God's love.

Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven above. Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin! How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.

#### MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### THE FIRST LESSON

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways.

SOLO

"LIFT UP YOUR HEADS"

Peter Niedmann Solist, Norton Christeson

#### THE SECOND LESSON

"But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake-for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.

**SERMON** 

"The Wait is On!"

Dr. Rader

Mark 13:24-37

Isaiah 64:1-5a

Nettleton

\*HYMN "Christ is Coming!" Christ is coming! Let creation from her groans and labor cease; let the glorious proclamation hope restore and faith increase; Christ is coming! Christ is coming! Come, O blessed Prince of peace

Earth can now but tell the story of your bitter cross and pain; we shall yet behold your glory, Lord, when you return to reign; Christ is coming! Christ is coming! Let each heart repeat the strain.

With that blessed hope before us, flutes are tuned and harps are strung; let the mighty advent chorus onward roll from tongue to tongue: Christ is coming! Christ is coming! Let each heart repeat the song.

Long your exiles have been pining for your promised rest and home, but in heavenly glory shining, soon the risen Christ shall come: Christ is coming! Christ is coming! Joyful shout the victory psalm.

#### PASTORAL PRAYER

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

#### **RECEPTION OF TITHES and OFFERINGS**

This congregation continues to need offerings to support the staff and missions we have. You may mail checks to us or have your checks mailed regularly from your bank at no cost to you. Otherwise, you may give by credit or debit card by going to www.wbts.org and clicking "Donate now."

OFFERTORY	Variation on "Nettleton"	Behnke
*DOXOLOGY	"In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful"	
In the Lord I'll be ever thank	tful; in the Lord, I will rejoice!	
Look to God; do not be afrai	d.	
Lift up your voices, the Lord	l is near.	

Lift up your voices the Lord is near.

#### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord, as we wait your coming again, we seek to be busy about your work. We seek to increase your kingdom on earth. We offer our talents and our financial gifts as stewards of what you have entrusted to us. In our dedication, we pray that you will show us how best to spend them for your name's sake. Amen.

(Unison)

\*HYMN "The Days Are Surely Coming" The days are surely coming says God to all the earth, when you will see my promise: salvation come to birth. My righteousness and justice will spread throughout the land and you will be delivered by my almighty hand.

The days are surely coming says Christ the promised one, when you will read my warning in moon and stars and sun. Though earth and heaven tremble, stand up and do not fear, for I am your redeemer, and I am drawing near.

The days are surely coming when we will know at last the fullness of God's presence, God's promise come to pass. Then righteousness and justice will spread throughout the land and we will be delivered by God's almighty hand.

## Sending

#### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE \*All who are able may stand "Sleepers, Wake!"

Manz

### <u>Announcements</u>

#### FLOWERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN BY:

Given anonymously in honor of Kendra who fills the sanctuary with wonderful sounds – organ, piano and "fiddle". Thank you!

<u>THE HANGING OF THE GREENS</u> church decorating time will be Tuesday, November 30th beginning at 4:00 p.m. All are welcome!

<u>CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SHUT INS</u> bags with names will be available in Fellowship Hall from Nov.  $28^{th}$  – Dec.  $12^{th}$ . The list of names for cards will be in the bulletin and also in Fellowship Hall on the table. Please put personalized cards without envelopes in the bags. Someone will be there if there are any questions.

<u>CHRISTMAS DCF GIFTS</u>: We had a great response to the gifts for children through the DCF (Department of Children and Families) this past Sunday. Twenty-five of the twenty-seven names have already been taken. We hope to receive more names soon, so look for the sign-up outside the sanctuary as you enter or leave the worship service. Many, many thanks to those who have already participated.

Financial results thru 9/30/21

	<b>Budgeted</b>	<u>Actual</u>
Collections for the year	\$ 457,520	\$ 373.992
Expenditures for the year	\$ 457,520	\$ 439,305
Amount over (under) needs	\$ 0	\$ (65,313)

Llangloffan

Liturgist:	Elder Anne Nussle
Organist:	Kendra Cochenour
Choir Director:	Norton Christeson
Videographer:	Kristin Downer
Assistant Videographer:	Janet Lindfors