

# A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

9:30 a.m.

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2018

## PRELUDE

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

We light these candles as a sign of the coming of Christ.

**Advent means coming.**

We are preparing ourselves for the days

**when the wolf shall dwell with the lamb,**

the leopard shall lie down with the kid,

**the calf and the lion and the fatling together,**

and a little child shall lead them.

HOUSTON



In him there is no dark - ness at all. The night and the  
day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the  
city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

## GATHERING PRAYER

Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. Give us grace to heed their warnings and turn from our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN 84 (*standing*)

**Creator of the Stars of Night**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(standing)*

God of salvation, we confess that the winding ways of our hearts often lead us in the paths made rough by sin. Keep our conduct blameless, we pray, and bring to perfection the good work you have begun in our hearts. We ask this in the name of the One whose coming is certain and whose day draws near; your Son Jesus Christ.

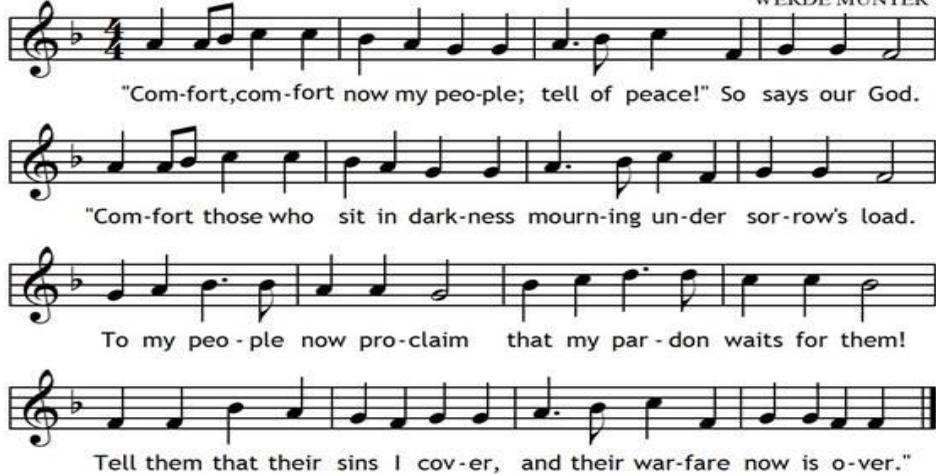
CANTAI AO SENHOR  
Adapted Gary Hill 2017



Have mer-cy, O Lord, have mer-cy up - on us; Have mer-cy, O  
Christ, have mer-cy up - on us; Have mer-cy, O Lord, have mer-cy up -  
on us; Have mer - cy, O Lord, have mer - cy, O Lord.

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON AND RESPONSE OF PRAISE *(standing)*

WERDE MUNTER



"Com-fort,com-fort now my peo-ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.  
"Com-fort those who sit in dark-ness mourn-ing un-der sor-row's load.  
To my peo-ple now pro-claim that my par-don waits for them!  
Tell them that their sins I cov-er, and their war-fare now is o-ver."

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*

Blessed Lord, you caused the holy scriptures to be written for our learning. We pray that as we read and hear your word today your Spirit will illumine its meaning to our understanding and write its eternal truths on our hearts; for the sake of Christ our Lord. Amen.

**READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE**

Cathie Murdaugh

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Malachi 3:1-4

EPISTLE LESSON

Philippians 1:3-11

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**MOMENT WITH CHILDREN**

Karen Rollins

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:57-80

**SERMON**

**The Way of Peace**

Rev. Deane Kemper

*By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us . . . to guide our feet into the way of peace.* Luke 1:78 & 79

**HYMN 347** *(standing)*

**Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Confession of 1967

**In each time and place there are particular problems and crises through which God calls the church to act. The church, guided by the Spirit, humbled by its own complicity and instructed by all attainable knowledge, seeks to discern the will of God and learn how to obey in these situations.**

**PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY**

**Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord**

Hill

**DOXOLOGY** *(standing)*

Old Hundredth

**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.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**HYMN 104** *(standing)*

**O Lord, How Shall I Meet You**

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

# Harbor View Presbyterian Church

Harbor View Presbyterian Church  
is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) ([www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org))  
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