

WORSHIP HANDOUT
December 19th
Third Sunday of Advent – Peace
Communion
“The Precipice” series



OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Plan to Pickup your Poinsettias either on Christmas Eve or the following Sunday.

PRELUDE Savior of the Nations, Come arr. By Cathy Moglebust
The United Handbell Choir

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*INTROIT Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates UMH 213 (vs. 3 only)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Our souls magnify the Lord!

P: Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

L: The mighty One has done great things for us!

P: Holy is God's name!

L: Let us worship God.

**P: For God is our Maker and our Redeemer;
from generation to generation God gives mercy.**

(based on Luke 1:46-50)

— from *The Gift of Revelation—Hebrews 1*, posted on the [Calvin Institute of Christian Worship](http://www.calvin.edu/ChristianWorship) website.

*HYMN UMH 209 Blessed Be the God of Israel

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

TIME OF PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER

**Lord our God,
you have revealed yourself as One
who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among
people;
In a world that looks away from injustice,
You cast your eyes on the destitute, the poor, and the
wronged;
You have called us to follow you,
to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release for the captives
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed
and to proclaim the time of your blessing.**

**Be present with your church, Lord,
as we respond to your call.
Open our eyes to the downtrodden.
Fill us with compassion for the plight of the alien,
the refugee, and the immigrant.
Lead us into ministries that help orphans and widows.
Give us courage to block the paths of the ungodly
who exploit the poor.**

**Set us free from pious exercises
that prevent us from the true worship you choose:
Sharing bread with the hungry,
Sharing homes with the homeless,
Sharing clothes with the naked,
Sharing hearts with our own kin.**

**So may your justice roll down like waters,
your righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.**

**Lead our footsteps to stand with the poor,
that we might stand with you.**

**Have mercy, O God:
Scatter the proud,
Put down the mighty,
Lift up the lowly,
Fill up the hungry,
And send the rich away empty-handed.**

Our Father...

~ Paul G. Janssen, and printed in *Prayerful Preparation: Living God, Renew Us*. Published by the World Communion of Reformed Churches, and posted at <http://wcrc.ch/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/GC2017-PrayerfulPreparation-English.pdf>.

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
trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For
thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory now and
forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Parent, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

UNISON PRAYER

Almighty God,
giver of every good and perfect gift,
teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are,
that we may praise you not with our words only,

but with our whole lives.

HYMN What Child Is This UMH 219 v 3

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE PA

HYMN It Came Upon the Midnight Clear UMH 218

LESSON I CEB Psalm 80:1-7

Shepherd of Israel, listen!

 You, the one who leads Joseph as if he were a sheep.

 You, who are enthroned upon the winged heavenly creatures.

Show yourself ² before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh!

 Wake up your power!

 Come to save us!

³ Restore us, God!

 Make your face shine so that we can be saved!

⁴ Lord God of heavenly forces,

 how long will you fume against your people's prayer?

⁵ You've fed them bread made of tears;

 you've given them tears to drink three times over!

⁶ You've put us at odds with our neighbors;

 our enemies make fun of us.

⁷ Restore us, God of heavenly forces!

 Make your face shine so that we can be saved!

May God add a blessing to this reading.

*LESSON 2 CEB Luke 1:39-55

39 Mary got up and hurried to a city in the Judean highlands. 40 She entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. 41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy

Spirit. 42 With a loud voice she blurted out, “God has blessed you above all women, and he has blessed the child you carry. 43 Why do I have this honor, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 As soon as I heard your greeting, the baby in my womb jumped for joy. 45 Happy is she who believed that the Lord would fulfill the promises he made to her.”

46 Mary said,

“With all my heart I glorify the Lord!

47 In the depths of who I am I rejoice in God my savior.

48 He has looked with favor on the low status of his servant.

Look! From now on, everyone will consider me highly favored

49 because the mighty one has done great things for me. Holy is his name.

**50 He shows mercy to everyone,
from one generation to the next,
who honors him as God.**

51 He has shown strength with his arm.

He has scattered those with arrogant thoughts and proud inclinations.

**52 He has pulled the powerful down from their thrones
and lifted up the lowly.**

**53 He has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty-handed.**

**54 He has come to the aid of his servant Israel,
remembering his mercy,**

**55 just as he promised to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to Abraham’s descendants forever.”**

L: This is the Word of God for all people.

P: Thanks be to God.

HYMN My Soul Gives Glory to My God UMH 198

MESSAGE “No Justice, No Peace”

RESPONSE UMH 204, Emmanuel, Emmanuel

POSTLUDE