

# FAIRFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 22, 2024

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

**Prelude**      *Chorale Prelude on "Vom Himmel hoch, da komm' her"*  
Johann Pachelbel

### Chiming of the Hour

### Welcome & Announcements

**Introit**      *Angels We Have Heard On High*      arr. Sherman  
Fairfield Ringers

### Lighting of the Advent Candles

**Special Music**      *Song for Special Days*      JOY Choir

### Call to Worship

L: Give ear to our cries, O Shepherd of Israel;  
**P: let your face shine, and save us.**  
L: Though we've been fed the bread of tears,  
**P: let your face shine, and save us.**  
L: Though our enemies rise up, though we feel consumed and surrounded,  
**P: let you face shine, and save us.**  
L: Awaken your might; lead us gently in your light.  
**P: Restore us, O God, so that we might be saved. Amen.**

## WE PRAISE GOD TOGETHER

**\*Hymn # 182**      *O Come, All Ye Faithful*      Adeste Fideles

### Responsive Prayer of Confession

L: God of hope, God of arrival, the days are coming, and your promise is arriving,

**P: yet we struggle to wait. We forget how to live as your people.**

L: In our impatience, we choose despair, forgetting that in darkness, new life grows.

**P: Turn us back to your hope.**

L: In our anxiety, we choose ways of violence, believing that our own strength will save us.

**P: Turn us back to your peace.**

L: In our want, we believe stories of scarcity, forgetting what you have done and given us.

**P: Turn us back to your joy.**

L: In our insecurity, we forget we are beloved, choosing ways of self-protection over self-giving.

**P: Turn us back to your love.**

L: Grant us sacred attention in this Advent season,

**P: that we might bear witness to your coming, always in our midst and on the way. (Silent prayer and reflection) Amen.**

### Words of Assurance

L: Friends, in Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven!

**P: Thanks be to God!**

\*Gloria Patri #734

*"Glory Be to the Father"*

Greatorex

### Psalter Reading

Psalm 80: 1-7

L: Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

**P: In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.**

L: Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

**P: O Lord God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**

L: You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

**P: You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

L: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be

saved.

**P: You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.**

**Anthem** *Beautiful Star of Bethlehem* arr. Brunner

## **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

**Scripture Lesson** Luke 2: 1-20 Pew Bible p. 58-New Testament

**Sermon Series** Boundless  
**Message** "Boundless Hope" Dr. Steve Starzer

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**\*Hymn # 179** *Joy to the World!* Antioch

**\*Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed (inside Hymnbook)

### **Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer**

### **Offering**

*(Please sign and pass the Friendship Pads during this time)*

**Offertory** *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen* arr. McChesney  
Fairfield Ringers

**\*The Doxology #44** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Closing Hymn #188** *Angels We Have Heard on High* Gloria

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude** *Postlude #2* arr. William Stickles

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\* Those who are able, please stand.