

Becoming the Beloved Community

Carter - Westminster United Presbyterian Church

Gathering of the People - Worshipping safely at home

December 27, 2020

First Sunday after Christmas

Gathering in God's Name

Greeting/Welcome/Announcements

PRELUDE:

"All is Well"

Kirkpatrick and Smith
arr. Lloyd Larson

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Isaiah 9:2)

The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;

**on those living in the land of the shadow of death
a light has dawned.**

Jesus Christ is our life and light.

In his name and in his power, let us worship God!

OPENING HYMN:

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

GTG # 132

Time of Spiritual Centering: Confession and Forgiveness

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us
as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not
welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good.**

**We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting
little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our
hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace,
and live in the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Word Proclaimed

SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 John 3:1, 4:7-21

SERMON

"Christmas Baptism"
Adapted from a story by Michael Lindvall
In his book *Good News from North Haven*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

TIME FOR GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY:

"In the Bleak Midwinter"
The Nott Family

Gustav Holst

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Gracious God: Guide this offering's use so that through it the radiance of your incarnate Word will help pierce the night that covers the earth and signal the dawn of justice and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending

CLOSING HYMN:

"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"

GTG # 118

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE:

"Go Tell It"

Traditional Spiritual
arr. Jack Schrader

Going Forth / Staying Home and Staying Safe

Assisting in Worship:

Emily Crisp, the Nott Family, Leo Radosavljevic, Angela DeVenuto, Jill Kaeding, Thomas Yang, George Blanchet, George Radosavljevic, Elliott Nott, Pat Radosavljevic, and Bridge Pastor William J. Ingersoll.