

## HANGING OF THE GREENS

December 3, 2023

**PRELUDE & PROCESSION OF THE LIGHT OF CHRIST** Sylvia Campbell

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE** Darrell & Kathy Page

**UNISON PRAYER**

**Faithful God, your promises stand unshaken through all generations. Renew us in hope, that we may be awake and alert as we watch for the glorious return of Jesus Christ, or judge and Savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.**

**\* HYMN 133** "O Come, All Ye Faithful" Wade

**SCRIPTURE READING** from Isaiah 9

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them, light has shined. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest... For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of His government and peace, there will be no end; he will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

**UNISON PRAYER**

**Coming Lord, by your mercy, guides our outward actions so that our inward being is formed in faith, hope, and love. May the decorations we offer engage our senses during the days of Advent and enliven our praise and worship through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS** Rev. Dayton Wilson

**\*HYMN 134** "Joy To the World!" Mason  
(1<sup>st</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> verse)

**\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** Rev. Dayton Wilson  
The Peace of Christ be with you all.  
**All: And also with you**

**TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES** EPC Young Disciples  
(Preschool – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade go to children's church)

## THE WHITE CHRISTMAS GIFTS

**One:** Advent reminds us that Jesus was born into a broken and hurting world. These gift bags remind us that Christ came for the poor and hungry. We pray, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

**All:** **We join in God's missionary work proclaiming salvation through Jesus Christ through our words and deeds, loving God and loving our neighbors.**

**\*HYMN 115** "Away in a Manger" Murray

**SCRIPTURE READING** from Isaiah 61 & Matthew 23

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor; He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God. To comfort all who mourn, To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness... I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness... For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READING** Mark 13:24-37 Rev. Dayton Wilson

**RESPONSE** Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** Rev. Dayton Wilson

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Apostles Creed Unison  
**I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** Special Music Marc Edge

**\*DOXOLOGY** Unison

