

Advent Service of Hope and Remembrance December 16, 2020

PRELUDE: "Passacaglia" in D Minor Bux WV 161

D. Buxtehude

Viktor Billa—organ

INTROIT: "I Wonder as I Wander"

John Jacob Niles

Warren May

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, my Light, and illumine my darkness.

All: Lord, in your mercy

Come, my Life, and revive me from death.

All: Lord, in your mercy

Come, my Physician, and heal my wounds.

All: Lord, in your mercy

Come, Flame of divine love, kindling my heart with the flame of

your love.

All: Lord, in your mercy

Come, my King, sit upon the throne of my heart and reign there. For

you alone are my King and my Lord.

All: Lord, in your mercy. Amen.

WELCOME Dr. Nick Quinton

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

All:

We light our first candle a single light that the deepest darkness cannot conquer—small—insignificant but a sign of hope.

All: Let it speak to us of the tiny flame of hope buried within us—the stubborn little light that refuses to be extinguished.

We light our second candle a companion to the first—equally small—equally insignificant—but witnessing to hope that another light brings.

Let it speak to us of the lights of companionship—of our families and our friends—of strangers and kindness found in unexpected

places that restored our hope in human nature.

We light our third candle recalling nights of watching and waiting—sleepless—anxious when dawn seemed to ebb further from the horizon and hope seemed forlorn.

All: Let it speak to us of the sureness of morning—of the passing of darkness of suffering—and the promise of an eternal sunrise though we may yet be in that darkest hour before the dawn.

We light our fourth candle—marking the closing of the Advent season and the immediacy of Christmas—a time of peace and joy we may not ourselves feel able to welcome—as our spirits dwell in dark and winteriness.

All: Let it speak to us of hope—of being together in this place of healing and wholeness—of our companionship this night —of the faith that we have that those we have loved are held eternally in the hand of the One who brought light into being—and who knows each one of us by name.

SPECIAL MUSIC:

"The Shepherds Farewell"

Hector Berlioz

Ensemble

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

All: Lord, we pray not for tranquility, nor that our tribulations may cease; we pray for your spirit and your love, that you grant us strength and grace to overcome adversity; through Jesus Christ. Amen. (The United Methodist Hymnal #531)

SCRIPTURE: JOHN 20: 24-29

ANTHEM: "Sing Me to Heaven"

Ensemble

MEDITATION: A Wounded Life Dr. Nick Quinton

Warren May and Julie Sherman

BENEDICTION:

RESPONSE: "May the Road Rise To Meet You"

Mark Repasky

J.

Daniel Gawthrop

POSTLUDE: "Chaconne" in F Minor

Pachelbel

Viktor Billa-organ

Ensemble

Victoria Ash
Patrick Ashley
Carol Dalton
Erik King
Susan King
Julie Sherman
Warren May
Chris Titko

Christmas Eve Services

7:00pm
Live Streamed Sanctuary Service
9:00pm
Outdoor In-Person Service
11:00pm
Recorded Sanctuary Service available

