

# St. Paul's

United Church of Christ  
Evansville, Indiana

## Second Sunday of Advent December 6, 2020 Online Worship

**WELCOME**

Rev. Mary Hurley

**PRELUDE**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*  
(Thomas Helmore, arrangement Rick Hobbs)

Rick Hobbs

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsively)

Pastor Mary: The day of God is coming; lift up your voices. Cry out with the strength God provides.

**Congregation: We await God's coming day with anticipation. We seek the peace and patience God provides.**

Pastor Mary: Comfort, comfort my people, says our God. Speak tenderly to my suffering people.

**Congregation: We will prepare the way for One who is coming. We look forward to baptism in the Spirit.**

Pastor Mary: God will feed us like a shepherd. God will gather us in gentle, caring arms.

**Congregation: God's hand is upon us in blessing: We are welcomed by God's steadfast love.**

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## INVOCATION (in unison)

Righteous and holy God, your glory is revealed to us day by day as valleys of despair are lifted up and mountainous problems are leveled. In your presence, we see more than our immediate situation. We catch a glimpse of your eternal purposes. So come among us now and speak your word of peace. Feed us with your truth, and equip us to welcome Christ's coming. Amen

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

with music *Shine a Candle* (Lucy Graham)

Katie Maurer

**SPECIAL MUSIC** *Glory (Let There be Peace)*

Worship Band

(Chris Stevens, Matt Maher, and Rachel Popadic)

## MORNING PRAYER

with **Prayer of Confession** (in unison)

God of Glory, we confess that we have not recognized you in our midst nor listened to your voice. Our faith is fragile, and our iniquity goes unrecognized amid our massive self-concern. We have lived as if we have no need to account for the life we have been given. Our church is focused more on our own survival than on its mission in the world. We come to you today with sincere repentance for our neglect. We have failed to prepare the way for Christ's entry into our everyday environment. Pardon and change us, we pray. Amen

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## **CALL TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**      *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*      Rick Hobbs  
(Ralph Vaughan Williams)

## **OFFERING PRAYER** (in unison)

**While we are waiting and preparing for Christ to appear, we are seeking, O God, to act as faithful followers. May our offerings extend the promise of salvation to people whose lives are broken by neglect, abuse, bad choices, and sinful ways. May these gifts offer hope to all whose suffering and loss seem to heavy to bear. May our church be a listening, caring presence for all its members, and through us for all those we meet in our work and leisure. Amen**

## **SCRIPTURE LESSON**

II Peter 3: 8-15a  
Mark 1: 1-8

**SERMON**      "The Patience of Our Lord is Salvation"      Rev. Mary Hurley

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

Prayer of Thanksgiving concluding with **The Lord's Prayer**

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

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**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Christ, Be Our Light*  
(Bernadette Farrell)

Rick Hobbs

**Celebrating Worship this Second Sunday of Advent**

**Rev. Mary Hurley**  
Pastor

**Katie Maurer**  
Director of Music Ministries

**Rick Hobbs**  
Organist

**Don Armstrong**  
**Bob Koch**  
**Katie Maurer**  
**Dirck Stahl**  
The St. Paul's Worship Band