



4th Sunday in Advent

Color: Blue (symbolizing hope)

The United Methodist Church of Chugiak

Pastor: Rev. Timothy McConville

Ministers: The Entire Congregation

11:00 am Worship Service

December 24, 2017

As you are seated, please remember to fill out the attendance pad and pass it along the pew.

* - Indicates those who are able may stand

Bold – Everyone speaks

UMH – United Methodist Hymnal (blue hardcover)

FWS – The Faith We Sing Hymnal (black paperback)

WAS – Worship and Song (green paperback)

"He is happiest, be he king or peasant, who finds peace in his home"

J.W. von Goethe

Words of Welcome

Greeting

Prelude

Terri Schimmack

Prayer of Safety

Chuck Foster

As we light this lamp, we pray for the safety of all who are in harm's way this day and especially for all those in the midst of conflict.

Grant us peace, grant them peace, grant the world peace, in the name of Your Son. Amen.

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Behold, we are a people who dwell in darkness.

People: Our understanding is dim, a mere shadow of truth.

Leader: In a land of deep darkness we await light from our God.

People: In faith we see but a faint reflection of God's glory.

Leader: Illumine our darkness by the light of your Christ.

People: Then we shall see and be radiant,

Leader: When the true Light which enlightens everyone has come into the world.

People: Amen, let it be so!

***Opening Hymn**

UMH #203

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

Lighting the Advent Candle of Peace

Call to Prayer

Unison Prayer of Invocation

Gracious God, we are a people of many distractions, pulled in different directions, responding to multiple and often conflicting needs. We thank you for the gifts of Sabbath and worship, for a space and a time to set aside everything that tugs at us and instead focus our hearts and minds on you. Draw us more deeply into your presence. Grant us rest as we rely on your provision, and faith as we trust in your grace. Quiet our spirits so we may hear your Spirit speaking to us. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Words of Assurance

Response and Call to Prayer

FWS #2207

"Lord, Listen to Your Children"

Prayers of the People

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Brief prayers may be shared by people in the congregation.

If it is a prayer request, the Pastor will end the prayer by saying, "God, to your love..."

If it is a praise, the Pastor will say, "God, in thanksgiving..."

*Then the people shall respond each time by saying:
"...we trust this prayer."*

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Anthem

"Song of the Stars"

Choir

Especially for Children

FWS #2233

This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng. Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.

Offering our Gifts

(All loose change goes to Anchorage Gospel Rescue Mission)

To our first time visitors: As the offering plate is passed, please understand that your presence is the only gift we ask. If you would join us again next Sunday, that would be appreciated even more!

***Doxology**

UMH #94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Prayer of Dedication**

Hymn of Preparation

TFWS #2091

"The King of Glory Comes"

Reading from the Word

Listen for the Word of God.

Our hearts and minds are open.

Isaiah 26:1-6

Psalm 85 (806 UMH)

Ephesians 2:14-18

*Luke 2:9-14

Thanksgiving for the Word

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God

The Message

A Journey of Peace

Rev. Tim McConville

***Hymn of Discipleship**

UMH #218

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

***Taking Christ's Light into the World**

Extinguishing the altar candles

***Benediction**

"The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you and give you his peace."

Numbers 6:24-26

***Benediction Response** (*words on the overhead beams*)

***Passing the Peace**

May the Peace of God go with you.

And also with you.

