



Let Us Worship God!

December 4, 2022 – 10:30 AM



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A HYBRID WORSHIP AND COMMUNION EXPERIENCE IN-PERSON AND ONLINE

Today's worship team—Music Director: Jayne McDonough. Worship Leader: Beverly Mate.
Message: Rev. Dr. Kevin Yoho. Worship Production: Norris Clark.



WELCOME! WORSHIP YOUR WAY!

So glad you're here today! Enjoy worship with your neighbors and be spiritually energized. Mask wearing is optional. Join us in-person in our beautiful, historic Red Brick Church or online: www.coldspringworship.com.

GATHERING AT THE LORD'S TABLE

Our in-person worshippers will be provided pre-packaged communion cups, which on-line worshippers may request by contacting the office. Or, you choose the bread. For the cup, you may use grape juice or wine, or water, remembering that Christ is the Living Water for all.



MESSAGE PREVIEW

The Second Sunday of Advent invites us to prepare for something fantastic. News that's worthy of being shouted from the mountaintops, or posted to your Instagram account, or texted to a friend. Yes. It's that fantastic because there is nothing ordinary about the preparatory days that lead us to celebrating Christmas. We will flesh out God's story as we hear the prophet Isaiah tell of a messenger to come. Five hundred years later, John the Baptizer fulfilled the prophecy and prepared the way for Jesus.

Christianity is a religion, but so much more. We don't follow a religion. We follow Jesus, the Peace of God that forever connects divinity with humanity. God becoming human is in the Church's (and our) spiritual DNA as we become

transformed by the *transcendent* into the *imminent*. The Word and Spirit became flesh and blood. Christmas is the story of this peace connection of the divine and human.

This week we will connect with John the Baptizer who expressed empathy. Empathy is rooted deep within the DNA of our church, but it can be developed, and improved, through learning. Understanding and clarifying our own values, but also understanding others' values, is essential to authentic living. Expressing empathy is essential for effective storytelling—storytelling that can transform lives. We too often tell a Christmas story about us. But its so much more. When the story is all about the storyteller, little empathy is expressed and impact on others is marginal. And stories rooted in ourselves alone are rarely interesting or effective. But when the storyteller internalizes the Story and pays attention to others, captures the experiences, emotions, and context of the listeners, empathy rises, which empowers life-changing behaviors.

Don't talk to their minds, talk to their hearts. —Nelson Mandela

John the Baptist does just that in our Gospel reading and message this week, and we can too.

MUSIC AND VIDEO PREVIEW

We begin with our Advent countdown that sets the theme for our worship experience. Jayne McDonough will accompany Beverly Mate singing. Our first hymn is *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*. The tune for this carol was composed by Mendelssohn, who himself was a Messianic Jew. It is from the second chorus of a cantata he wrote in 1840. The cantata commemorates Johann Gutenberg and the invention of the printing press. Mendelssohn strictly warned that his composition had a purely secular purpose. However, in 1856, long after both Wesley and Mendelssohn were dead, Dr. William Cummings ignored both of their wishes and joined the lyrics by Wesley with the music by Mendelssohn for the first time. As a result, the modern version of this beautiful, gospel-centered carol was born, and generations ever since have made this hymn a Christmas favorite.

We close with *Go, Tell It On The Mountain*. The refrain theme comes from Old Testament passages in which praise to God for his acts of deliverance. Acclamations are shouted, both literally and metaphorically, from the mountaintops (Isa. 42:11). While the three stanzas tell the essence of the Christmas story, the refrain underscores the missionary impetus of the Christian church: "As you go, make disciples of all nations" (Matt. 28:19). The "Go, tell," which initially applied to the singers caroling on the university campus, signals us to leave the comfortable confines of Christian worship and "Go, tell" the message of Christ's redemption to the whole world.

COUNTDOWN TO ADVENT WORSHIP

GREETING: PASTOR KEVIN (10:24)

PRELUDE: JAYNE McDONOUGH (10:27)

WELCOME: (10:30)

CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVELY) BEVERLY MATE (10:32)

Welcome to our Advent adventure to
nurture our spirit and inspire our faith!

**During these days of anticipation
and hope, we step out together to
experience hope.**

Everyone is included on our journey to
Bethlehem, where justice is born, love is
displayed, and our lives are transformed.

**Jesus is the Gift of salvation
promised long ago, the One who
comes to us today.**

Let us worship God!

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE: PEACE



Today we light the candle of peace. Only Jesus, our Prince of Peace, can give us the kind peace that all of us need. In Philippians 4, we read, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Jesus Christ is our peace we can internalize and share today.

SHARING THE PEACE OFFER AN EXPRESSION OF PEACE TO THOSE NEAR YOU

GOD WELCOMES ALL (UNISON)

**God welcomes all,
strangers and friends;
God's love is strong
and it never ends.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (UNISON)

**Loving God, open our hearts and
minds to the Good News as we learn,
grow, and serve. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: ISAIAH 11:1-5 (MSG)

A green Shoot will sprout from Jesse's
stump, from his roots a budding Branch.
The life-giving Spirit of God will hover over
him, the Spirit that brings wisdom and
understanding,

The Spirit that gives direction and
builds strength, the Spirit that instills
knowledge and the Awe-of-God.

God's awesomeness will be all his joy
and delight. He won't judge by
appearances, won't decide on the basis of
hearsay. He'll judge the needy by what is
right, render decisions on earth's people

with justice. His words will bring everyone to awed attention.

A mere breath from his lips will topple the wicked. Each morning he'll pull on sturdy work clothes and boots, and build righteousness and faithfulness in the land.

MESSAGE FOR KIDS- *TIME FOR CARING*

PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

(10:38)

MUSIC - BEVERLY MATE

GOSPEL READING : MATTHEW 3:1-12 (MSG)

While Jesus was living in the Galilean hills, John, called “the Baptizer,” was preaching in the desert country of Judea. His message was simple and austere, like his desert surroundings: “Change your life. God’s kingdom is here.”

John and his message were authorized by Isaiah’s prophecy:

Thunder in the desert!

Prepare for God’s arrival!

Make the road smooth and straight!

John dressed in a camel-hair habit tied at the waist by a leather strap. He lived on a diet of locusts and wild field honey. People poured out of Jerusalem, Judea, and the

Jordanian countryside to hear and see him in action. There at the Jordan River those who came to confess their sins were baptized into a changed life.

When John realized that a lot of Pharisees and Sadducees were showing up for a baptismal experience because it was becoming the popular thing to do, he exploded: “Brood of snakes! What do you think you’re doing slithering down here to the river? Do you think a little water on your snakeskins is going to make any difference? It’s your life that must change, not your skin! And don’t think you can pull rank by claiming Abraham as father. Being a descendant of Abraham is neither here nor there. Descendants of Abraham are a dime a dozen. What counts is your life. Is it green and flourishing? Because if it’s deadwood, it goes on the fire.

“I’m baptizing you here in the river, turning your old life in for a kingdom life. The real action comes next: The main character in this drama—compared to him I’m a mere stagehand—will ignite the

kingdom life within you, a fire within you, the Holy Spirit within you, changing you from the inside out. He's going to clean house—make a clean sweep of your lives. He'll place everything true in its proper place before God; everything false he'll put out with the trash to be burned."



MESSAGE: *THE STORY AND THE STORYTELLER*

MATTHEW 3:1-12 REV. DR. KEVIN YOHO

PRAYER AND SILENT REFLECTION

MUSIC (VIDEO): *HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING* # 31

1. Hark the herald angels
sing
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy
mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise

Join the triumph of the
skies
With th'angelic hosts
proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

2. Christ by highest heav'n
adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold Him
come
Offspring of the Virgin's
womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead
see
Hail th'incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with men
to dwell
Jesus our Emmanuel
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

3. Hail the heav'n-born
Prince of Peace
Hail the Son of
Righteousness
Light and life to all He
brings
Ris'n with healing in His
wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may
die
Born to raise the sons of
earth
Born to give them second
birth
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

We may not know the time, but our every moment is held in God's hands. We may not do and say what we should or could, but God offers us forgiveness. Join me as we pray together, saying...

PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS (UNISON)

God of our lives, sometimes it is hard to walk in hope. With variants still stalking us, how can we think of traveling and being in crowds? With threats of violence or bullies on social media, why shouldn't we respond with anger and

vindictive slights? When our hope is shrouded, show us how to become beacons of light for those in the shadows.

Forgive us, God of Advent, and have mercy. Fill us with the peace of your Spirit, so we may expect you to come in people and places which surprise us, just as you did in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

SILENT REFLECTION

HEAR THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE (RESPONSIVE)

In the name of Jesus Christ, God loves and forgives us to live a life of faith, justice, hope, and love.

Thanks be to God, we are forgiven.

Amen.

THE GLORIA

(3) (1\0:56)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

MOMENT FOR MISSION- *THE PERFECT GIFT*

MOMENT FOR GIVING

God calls us to lives of grateful generosity. If you believe in our mission, thank you for supporting our mission. To give during worship, you may use the Giving Box as an usher passes. You may also give as you leave, or give online anytime.

THE DOXOLOGY

(5) (10:58)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above the heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYERS OF GRATITUDE

SPECIAL DAYS

Barbara Keister's birthday is 12/6!

COMMUNITY NEWS

In the Narthex: Poinsettias Order Forms
and the Reverse Advent Calendar
Invite Your Friends to Upcoming Events





www.coldspringchurch.com
780 Seashore Rd. Cold Spring, NJ 08204
Near Historic Cold Spring Village
609-884-4065

**Join in the Wreaths Across America Tradition
Saturday, December 17, 2022 12 PM**

Handel's Messiah

*Featuring soloists
Judy Ann Curtis, Ellen Rutkowski,
Wes Poole, and Kevin Grace
with the Cape Classical Chorus and Orchestra*

Directed by Dr. John Curtis

*Saturday December 17, 7:30 pm
Cold Spring Presbyterian Church*

**Experience Christmas Eve
at Cold Spring Church**

*Enjoy our beautiful
6PM candlelight service
in-person or online*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Let us pray for: Our cemetery members annual meeting today at 2:00 PM in Price Hall. The Moyer family in the passing of Larry's brother, Luther. Passing of Joanne Price the sister of Ruth's daughter in law, Dr. Regina Olsen receiving a transplant on 12/5. Pastor Kevin beginning cancer treatments. Barbara Cain's new great granddaughter, Veronica. Lenore under the weather. Bob Fite (hospice). Pam Smith and Tara Garton's Christmas mission trip to Alabama. Adelia and Rob Jonas. Ted Lewis. Eileen Stalford. Leonard Beatty and family in passing of his wife. Police officer Ben needs additional work hours. Isabella McDonough. Those rebuilding after Hurricane Ian and Hurricane Nicole, and for those suffering from severe weather events. Dolce Alvarez (missing). Eileen and David Word. Lorraine. Ronald Walker. Glenn & Marie. Denise's mom. Janet. Pastor Kevin, Mike, Steve, Rickey,, Lorraine, Carl, Kate, Candy. Paul Haggy. Janice Olszewski.

We mourn gun violence in across our country. We pray for the people of Ukraine. We pray for those suffering from Covid-19 and for God to bless those serving in healthcare, law enforcement, fire, government, armed forces, education, and business.

LORD'S PRAYER

(11:03)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

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 ALL: COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE!
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you! And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

You formed the universe in your wisdom, and created all things by your power. You set us in families on the earth to live with you in faith. We praise you for good gifts of bread and wine, and for the table you spread in the world as a sign of your love for all people in Christ.

We join our voices with all creation and all ages to proclaim the glory of your name: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION

Use pre-packaged cups during music video that follows

COMMUNION MUSIC (VIDEO): BLESSED JESUS, LIVING BREAD

Blessed Jesus, living Bread,
By your self our souls are fed:
Give us all the eyes to see
All that you were sent to be.

"What is it?" old Israel cried,
Ate it, and was satisfied.
Now the same prolific hand
Feeds them in a barren land.
Not by this world's bread alone
Can our life become full-grown,
But by every word that goes
From the mouth of God one grows.

On that table made of wood
Lies our sacramental food:

"Take and eat and live" you call,
"Here is life for each and all!"
Ah, what welcome words you speak:
Comfort to revive the weak,
God's own wisdom, hope, and cheer
Starving souls are blest to hear.

Word incarnate, Word divine,
Word that comes in bread and wine:
Love that we have come to know:
Lord, to whom else shall we go?

We are in that crowd you fed
With your blest, abundant Bread.
Moved by every human care
Bless the Bread we eat and share.

FRESH EXPRESSION OF COMMUNITY

(11:24)

Once we were strangers,
Now we are neighbors.
Once we were strangers,
Now we are friends.

MUSIC - *GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN* HYMNAL #29

CHORUS

**Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'rywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born**

VERSE 1

**While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light
Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'rywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born**

VERSE 2

**The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed the Savior's birth
Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'rywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born**

VERSE 3

**Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn
Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'rywhere
Go tell it on the mountains UI
That Jesus Christ is born**

BENEDICTION: PASTOR KEVIN

POSTLUDE: JAYNE McDONOUGH

(11:27)

Go in peace. See you next week!

So glad you've joined us. Please Like and Subscribe on our YouTube channel, Facebook, and Instagram. Worship at any time on YouTube. Invite others to join you next week.

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1. *God Welcomes All* - CCLI Song
#5495557
2. _____
3. *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*; Music-
Felix Mendelssohn, text- Charles
Wesley; arr. Wm. Hay man Cummings;
CCLI #27738
4. *Gloria* - public domain
5. *Doxology*: CCLI #42555
6. *Blessed Jesus Living Bread: Text*:
Jaroslav Vajda, *Tune: Traditional, Setting*:
Koine Music 2014.
7. *Go Tell It On The Mountain: John W.*
Work, Jr.; words & music - public domain
CCLI #29080