

## A Service of Lessons and Carols for Advent

A Celebration for the Third Service of the Season

December 6, 2005

*We ask that the celebrant, deacon, all readers, communion servers, and anyone else who has a role in the service please be seated on the front row, floor level.*

*Chandler Singers is seated as a group on the floor, according to Dr. Day-Miller's instructions.*

*Chapel Choir is seated as a group on the opposite side of the nave from Singers.*

Instructions	Order
	<p>Prelude – "Wachet Auf" by JS Bach Mark Gorman, organ; John Legan, Trombone</p>
<p><i>Sharletta lights first two candles, and waits beside the wreath for Dr. Bondi to join her.</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Bondi reads the text and hands book to Sharletta. Sharletta hands her the candle lighter, and Dr. Bondi lights candle.</i></p> <p><i>After extinguishing the lighter, Dr. Bondi offers a prayer of her choosing.</i></p> <p><i>Turn page and return to seat after prayer.</i></p>	<p><b>Light Advent Wreath Candles and Prayer</b></p> <p>– Dr. Roberta Bondi</p> <p>A reading from the book of Isaiah the 35th chapter, verses 1, 2 and 10</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.</p> <p><i>(Light the third candle)</i></p> <p>We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Joy. May the joyful promise of your presence, O God, make us rejoice in our hope of salvation. O come, O come, Emmanuel.</p> <p><i>(Prayer by Dr. Bondi here)</i></p>
	<p><b>Coral Response</b> – Chapel Choir</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" Claude Gounin</p>

	<b><i>A moment of silent meditation</i></b>
<i>Dr. Day-Miller leads</i>	<b>Opening Congregation Hymn</b> Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus – <i>UMH #196</i>
<i>Reader rises and moves to the pulpit for the reading</i>	<b>First Lesson</b> – Geoff McElroy A reading from Isaiah, chapter 40, verses 1 -8 Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.
<i>Returns to seat after reading</i>	The Word of God for the People of God. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>
<i>A "Cantor" sings each of the verses and the congregation sings the refrain in response</i>	<b>Carol</b> A Voice Cries Out – <i>Ritual Song #485</i>







*Deacon invites with gesture, the congregation to stand*

*Reader rises and moves to the pulpit for the reading of the gospel*

*Returns to seat after reading*

**Fifth Lessons – Dr. Brelsford**

A reading from the gospel of Mark , chapter 1, verses 1 through 15.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,' "

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals.

I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him.

And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness.

He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

<p><i>Deacon invites with gesture, the congregation to sit.</i></p> <p><i>The Prayers of the People are read facing the congregation from a position in front of the Lord's Table.</i></p>	<p><b>Prayers of the People</b></p> <p>Let us offer our prayers to God, responding, "Lord, hear us."</p> <p>Loving God,</p> <p>Awaken our hearts to your presence, your nearness in this season of waiting. As we strive to see you through the confusion, the fatigue, the business and the stress. We offer this prayer.</p> <p><b>Lord, hear us.</b></p> <p>Awaken us to your word, your touch, your love that is now and always alive in the world around us; in the peoples of this planet. We offer this prayer.</p> <p><b>Lord, hear us.</b></p> <p>Awaken our hearts to vigilance. Enliven us with your divine energy and grace so that we might see you in the eyes of all those who suffer, all who are lonely, all who are in need. We offer this prayer.</p> <p><b>Lord, hear us.</b></p> <p>Awaken this assembly gathered for worship that Jesus Christ is with us here making all we do and all of us his own. Accept our acts of praise and worship. We offer this prayer.</p> <p><b>Lord, hear us.</b></p> <p>May God's coming into our human history be always new, bringing light to the dark places, peace where there is violence, and hope to the whole world. We offer this prayer.</p> <p><b>Lord, hear us.</b></p> <p>May our hearts be filled with your grace, and made ready for your coming. We offer this prayer.</p> <p><b>Lord, hear us.</b></p> <p>Receive these and all the prayers of our hearts in the name of the Triune God: Father, Son and Spirit. <b>Amen</b></p>
<p><i>ALL Communion Servers depart to narthex to bring in communion elements and bring to the Deacon who will provide instructions</i></p>	<p><b>Offertory – Candler Singers</b></p> <p>"How Sweet is Love"</p> <p>Words from a Dutch carol, 1599</p> <p>Music by Michael Paget</p>

<p><i>Pages 60 – 61 in <b>The New Handbook of the Christian Year</b></i></p> <p><i>Servers stand behind table after giving elements to Deacon.</i></p> <p><i>Three communion stations will be used, and the deacon will assign locations and pairs.</i></p>	<p><b>Great Thanksgiving</b> (Missa Emmanuel will be used as musical setting ... cantor leads with congregational response)</p> <p><b>Breaking of Bread</b></p> <p><b>Communion</b></p>
	<p><b>Prayer after Communion</b> - Dr. Alice Rogers</p>
<p><i>Dr. Day Miller steps forward, turns to face congregation, and announces hymn inviting the congregation to stand with gesture.</i></p>	<p><b>Closing Hymn</b> Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates – <i>UMH #213</i></p>
<p><i>Dr. Rogers moves to center of nave for blessing and sending forth.</i></p>	<p><b>Benediction</b> – Dr. Alice Rogers</p>