



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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“Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.”

December 13, 2020

3rd Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Three French Carols

arr. Phillips

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Our Advent Family

The Dedrick Family

The Candle of Joy

Our Advent Scripture

Luke 2:8-20 (NRSV)

Invocation

Lord, you bring glad tidings to the poor.

Let us hear.

You heal the brokenhearted.

Heal us too.

You free the prisoners from their jails.

Free us from ourselves.

Loving God,

please come to us,

and send us out, forgiven,

to the poor, the brokenhearted the imprisoned. Amen.

Carol

O come, all ye faithful

#212

Children's Time

Carol

Hark! the herald angels sing

#201

Congregational Prayer

David Beswick

One: Lord Jesus, preaching good tidings to the people,
proclaiming release to captives,
setting at liberty those who are bound:

All: We adore you.

One: Lord Jesus, friend of the outcast and the poor,
feeder of the hungry,
healer of the sick:

All: We adore you.

One: Lord Jesus,
denouncing the oppressor,
exposing the hypocrite,
overcoming evil with good:

All: We adore you.

One: Lord Jesus,
pattern of gentleness,
teacher of holiness,
prophet of the kingdom:

All: We adore you.

One: Lord Jesus,
dying to save us from our sin,
rising to give us eternal life,
ascending to prepare our heavenly home:

All: We adore you.

Song

Hope is a candle (verses 1-2, 4)

#15 *Sing the Story*



1 Hope is a can - dle, once lit by the proph - ets,
2 Peace is a can - dle to show us a path - way,
3 Love is a can - dle whose light makes a cir - cle,
4 Joy is a can - dle of mys - t'ry and laugh - ter,



1 nev - er con - sumed, though it burns through the years;
2 threat - ened by gusts from our rage and our greed.
3 where ev - 'ry face is the face of a friend.
4 mys - t'ry of light that is born in the dark;



1 dim in the day - light of pow - er and priv - i - lege—
2 Friend, feel no en - vy for those in the shad - ows—
3 Wid - en the cir - cle by shar - ing and giv - ing—
4 laugh - ter at hear - ing the voice of an an - gel,



1 when they are gone, hope will shine on.
2 vio - lence and force their dead - end course.
3 God's ho - ly dare: love ev - ery - where.
4 ev - er so near, cast - ing out fear.

“Hope is a candle” by Richard Leach
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Invitation to Give

Psalm 96:7-8 (NLT)

O nations of the world, recognize the Lord;
recognize that the Lord is glorious and strong.

Give to the Lord the glory he deserves!
Bring your offering and come into his courts.

Special Music

I Wonder As I Wander

John Jacob Niles

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 61:1-11 (NRSV)

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,

to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks,
foreigners shall till your land and dress your vines;
but you shall be called priests of the Lord,
you shall be named ministers of our God;
you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations,
and in their riches you shall glory.
Because their shame was double,
and dishonor was proclaimed as their lot,
therefore they shall possess a double portion;
everlasting joy shall be theirs.

For I the Lord love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,

he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
 as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
 and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
 For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
 and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
 so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
 to spring up before all the nations.

Sermon “They Shall Be Called Oaks of Righteousness”

Carol *Angels we have heard on high* #197

Benediction

Lord God, our Father,
 no one has ever seen you
 but you have shown yourself to us
 in your beloved Son Jesus Christ.
 Help us to recognize his face
 in the poor and the humble.
 Do not allow us to overlook him
 in the brokenhearted and the weak.
 Let the Holy Spirit give us the courage
 to bring his good news of hope and joy
 to all who wait for him and need him,
 whether they know it or not.
 We ask this through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Postlude *How Great Our Joy* arr. Krieger

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 PastorDavid Whitten
 Worship Leader Carol Goss
 The Advent Family..... The Dedricks
 Special Music..... Bob Gangwer
 FlutistSarah Beers
 Organist/Pianist Bob Phillips
 Producer Kevin Beers