

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

(Portions of the service that are in **BOLD** are to be said by all. All points marked \* those who are able are invited to stand.)

### Approach

Gathering Carols VU #44 – "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" VU #38 – "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Lighting the Advent Candles

Call to Worship

- One: Welcome to this place where we seek our hearts' true home.
- Here, we gather with God's people; here, we hold one All: another in our hearts.
- One: Welcome to this place where we seek our hearts' true home.
- Here, we discover God's intentions for us. All:
- One: Welcome to this place where we seek our hearts' true home.
- Here, we find a feast prepared for us; here, we taste All: God's grace and hope.
- One: Welcome to this place!
- Where we find our hearts' true home All:
- Hymn VU #2 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

### Prayer of Approach

God of Prophecy, You call us to speak Your words in this world through our voices and through our actions, through our very lives. You call us into Your ways of justice and peace which call us to stand against oppression and injustice, to speak out for the poor and marginalized. You call us to risk our very selves for You rather than to live comfortably with inequality. You call us into Your ways of peace, which call us to speak the truth in love. Holy God, Prince of Peace, forgive us for not wanting to walk in Your ways. Forgive us for not wanting to forgive, for not wanting to restore, for not wanting to renew. Forgive us for holding on to anger and bitterness rather than recognizing our own brokenness and our need for restoration. In the name of the One who teaches us peace, we pray. AMEN

Hymn VU #901 – "Blest Be the God of Israel"

# The Word

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. THANKS BE TO GOD!

Meditation – "Prepare the way for who or what?" (a quiet time for your personal reflection and prayer)

Anthem – "A Voice Cries Out 'Prepare the Way of the Lord""

## The Response

Announcements / Minute Person – Pat Lumsden

Offering / Response

My soul is filled with joy As I sing to God my savior: You have looked upon your servant, You have visited your people. And holy is your name Through all generations. **Everlasting is your mercy** To the people you have chosen. And holy is your name.

Celebration of Communion (see insert)

### Post-Communion Prayer

We are one with the mystery and Source and Sustainer of all that exists. We rejoice in our human capacity to wonder and marvel, to appreciate, to rejoice, and to give thanks. Amen.

Hymn VU #18 – "There's a Voice in the Wilderness"

#### **Benediction / Response**

A prophet's words shared long ago Remind us that God guides each day; Amid new journeys we shall take We'll find our path. locate God's way That leads us to a treasured birth: God's promised gift of such great worth.

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Rev. Dr. Sharon Wilson, Minister Patrick Woodbeck, Associate Minister Luci Toews, Church Administrator Laura Steidl, Music Director Myrna Hagues, Organist Jessica Steidl & Alex Czehryn, Joyful Noise Judi Olson Chiswell, Liturgist Gina Grant, Custodian Douglas Gauthier & Gloria Waldron, Nursery Care Givers

Communion Servers: The Paton Family