

South Freeport Church

Congregational † United Church of Christ



“John the Baptist Preaching to the Masses in the Wilderness” by Pieter Bruegel, 1601

Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2023

Everyone is welcome at South Freeport Church!

Hearing amplifiers are available for those who need them, please ask an usher.

Young kids are invited to explore the “Prayground” in the back of the sanctuary. We also have nursery care available. Children are always welcome to be their authentic selves here: noises, wiggles, and all!

Order of Worship

**Please rise as you are able*

PRELUDE "Choral (Op.31/16)" Louis Vierne

ENTERING THE ADVENT STORY Rev. Sean Patrick Coady

INTROIT "Advent Celebration" Paige

MEDITATION Judy Brown
If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.
– Mother Teresa

*OPENING HYMN "Comfort, Comfort Now My People" #155

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH The Monk Family

CHILDREN'S CHOIR "The Friendly Beasts"
Children and youth may head upstairs to Children's Church at this time if they wish.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION Pastor Jeremy W. Young

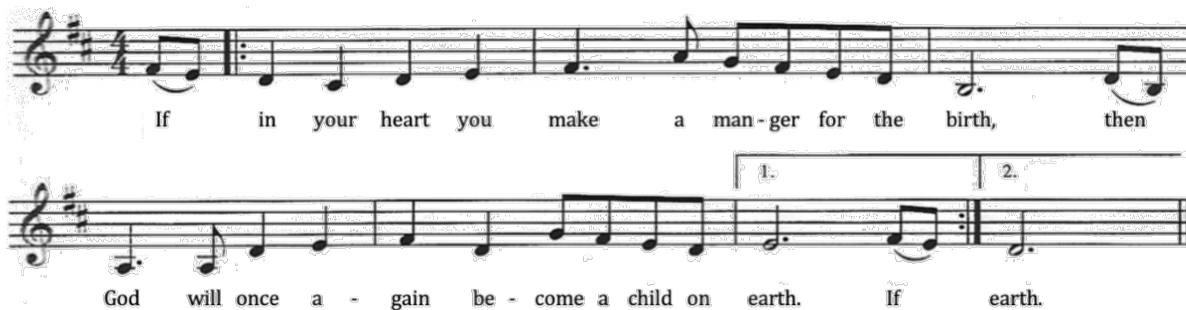
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

SHARING THE HOPE AND PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The hope of Christ be with you! **All: And also with you.**

RESPONSE SONG "If In Your Heart"



STEWARDSHIP WITNESS Deborah McLean

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

SCRIPTURE Mark 1:1-8 (Pew Bibles page 910) Judy Brown

SERMON "Prepare the Way" Rev. Sean Patrick Coady

CHORAL ANTHEM "Those Gospel Angels" Gilpin

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and 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.

CHORAL RESPONSE

“Christmas Eve Lullaby”

Gilday

OFFERING

Announcements

Call to Offering

Offertory

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done. Creator, Christ, and Spirit one. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

*CLOSING HYMN

“Prepare the Way of the Lord”

#174

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Capriccio from Partita 2”

J.S. Bach

We are grateful for all those who are assisting in worship this morning, including Lizzie McIntire for providing altar flowers and Sarah and Laura Guzmán for hosting Fellowship Time after worship. All are invited to partake in the Cookie Walk, Green Christmas Contest voting, and other activities in the hall after worship.



Advent II - Dec 10 - *Those who dream prepare the way*

A voice cries out in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord!" John the Baptist sets the stage for Christ. Come to the Cookie Walk and vote for a Green Team Contest winner.

Advent III - Dec 17 - *Those who dream sow joy*

It's Christmas Pageant Sunday! The youngest in our congregation lead us in reenacting the Nativity Story. In Coffee Hour, the winner of the Green Team Contest will be drawn.

Advent IV - Dec 24 - *Those who dream are not alone*

This year, the fourth Sunday of Advent falls on Christmas Eve. Join us in the morning for an informal service

with lots of Christmas Carols. In the evening, our Advent journey ends as we celebrate the birth of the Christ Child at our 7pm and 9pm Christmas Eve services.

South Freeport Church Staff

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Will Bristol, Today's Organist

Kessa Benner, Livestream Technician



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