



*An Open & Affirming, Creation Justice
Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

27 December 2020 – 10:30 AM

First Sunday after Christmas

PRELUDE

Cold December Flies Away
Vlada Volkova-Moran, organist

Dale Wood

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

The Rev. David Pattee, pastor

We come before you in awe, O God, freshly aware of your glory and your love embodied in the midst of this world. Here amid dirt and straw, amid noise of cattle and labor of birth, in all the cares of this world, and in the quiet, we perceive your work. We dare to believe that it is you, God, coming to be among us in Jesus, and so we praise you with songs of joy. Glory be to you, O God, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
led by Roger Erickson

MENDELSSOHN

**Hark! the heard angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With the angel host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the heard angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"**

**Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness! Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"**

PRAYER IN THE SPIRIT OF JESUS

**Earth-Maker, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Source of all that is and all that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God in whom is Heaven:
May the hallowing of your name echo through the universe.
May your Heavenly will be done by all creatures great and small.
And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need this day, feed us. For the hurt we inflict on one another, forgive us.
Through times of temptation, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love.
Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:22-32

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

ANTHEM	<i>Hallelujah Chorus</i>	G. F. Handel
SERMON	<i>Out of the Box</i>	Pastor Dave
ANTHEM	<i>Personent Hodie</i>	arr. John Rutter

*On this day earth shall ring
with the song children sing
to the Lord, Christ our King,
born on earth to save us;
him the Father gave us.*

PRAYERS

OFFERTORY
Invitation

www.PeaceUnited.com/Giving
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Offertory Music *Brightest and Best of the Stars of Morning* John Leavitt

COVENANT

**We covenant with God and with each other:
to walk together in all God's ways as the Holy is revealed to us;
to give ourselves freely and without reserve to Jesus' ministry in this church; to
celebrate through worship God's amazing gifts of unity and diversity; to take up
Christ's mission around the world, striving for justice and peace; to care for the earth
and all her creatures, reconciling ourselves to them in love;
for God gives immeasurable grace into all life and every life. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Pastorale from "Le Prologue de Jesus"* arr. Joseph W. Clokey