



Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
A Service of Lessons and Carols

Hicks Memorial Chapel
 Tuesday, December 6, 2022

*The service of worship begins with the music of the prelude.
 Through its power and brilliance, may you feel the majesty and glory of God;
 in its quietness, God's peace.*

Prelude

***Greeting and Bidding Prayer**

Isaiah 40:3; 52:10

Leader: A voice cries out:

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
 make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

***People:* And all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.**

Leader: Beloved in Christ, as we await the great festival of Christmas, we prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning. We have gathered to hear, in readings from the Holy Scriptures, how the prophets of Israel foretold that God would visit and redeem God's waiting people. We rejoice, in canticles, carols, and hymns, that God's plan of redemption is being mightily fulfilled, and encourage one another in Christian hope.

Let us pray.

God of grace and glory,
 in this world so filled with despair, we cling to your promise:
 surely Christ is coming soon.

As we wait for this glorious appearing,
 we pray for the world that you so love:
 we long for your Holy Spirit to bring healing, justice, and peace that surpasses understanding to every place of suffering and hopelessness,
 including those we name now in our hearts. . .

silent prayer

As this Advent season continues to unfold,
 challenge and strengthen us to be people of eager expectation
 and ministers of your peace.

These prayers we humbly offer as we meditate on the readings from Holy Scripture,
 and also now, in the words that our Lord Jesus Christ taught us:

***People:* Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
 now and for ever. Amen.**

Leader: The Almighty God bless us with his grace:

Christ give us the joys of everlasting life:

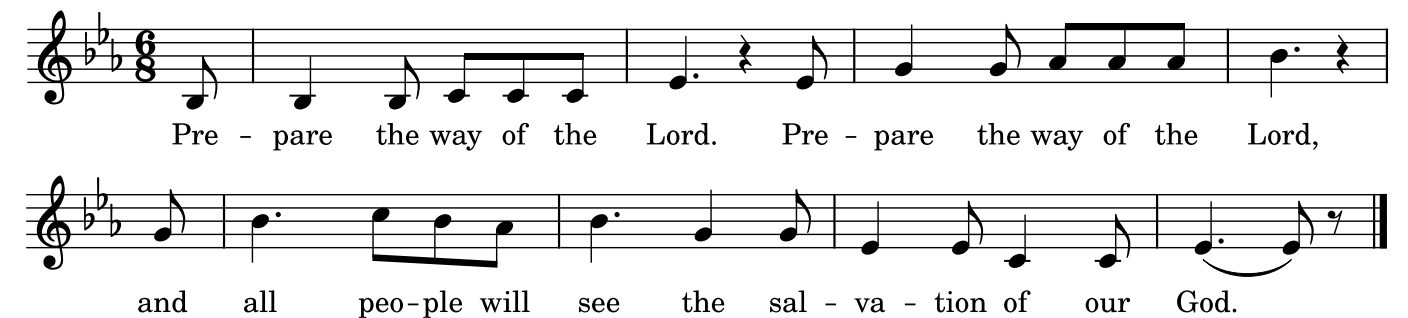
and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all.

***People:* Amen.**

*please rise in body and/or spirit

***Song of Invitation**

Prepare the Way of the Lord



Text: Taizé Community, 1984
 Music: Jacques Berthier, 1984

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Magnificat

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

No Wind at the Window

GtG #101

stanza 1: cantors

stanzas 2-4: all

Canticle: Luke 1:46-55

***Carol**

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

GtG #100

Benedictus

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

GtG #129

Canticle: Luke 1:68-79

***Carol**

Blest Be the God of Israel

GtG #109

Gloria

Scripture Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

***Carol**

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

GtG #107

Canticle: Luke 2:12-14

Musical Meditation

Christmas Amazing Grace

Lyrics by Caleb Grimm
and Kelsey Grimm

Nunc Dimittis

Scripture Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom

GtG #378

Canticle: Luke 2:29-32

***Hymn**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

GtG #82

***Charge and Blessing**

Romans 13:12

Leader: The night is far spent and the day is at hand.

Keep awake and alert, watching for the Kingdom,
and remain strong in faith,
so that when Christ comes in glory to judge the earth,
you may joyfully give him praise.

***People:* To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.**

Leader: Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one
things earthly and heavenly,
grant you the fullness of inward peace and goodwill,
and make you partakers of the divine nature;
And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

***People:* Alleluia! Amen.**

*You are invited to exchange messages of Christ's peace and reconciling love
in person – in ways that you feel comfortable with –
or through the chat function.*

Postlude