



## *1st Sunday of After Christmas Day*

**WHITNEY  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
December 27, 2020      10:00 a.m.**

**Rev. Christina Thompson**

### **WELCOME**

Welcome to worship today. I am Rev. Christina Thompson and I am pastor at Whitney UMC in Boise, ID. I am so excited to welcome folks from Simpson UMC in Pullman Washington and their pastor Lesli McGowan who are joining us in worship today. For those who do not know, Pastor Lesli had been a member here at Whitney UMC and it is from this church that her call to ministry was nurtured. It is a blessing to worship together.

## LIGHTING THE CANDLE

In this season of Christmas, as we celebrate that Christ has come to each of us, I invite you to light your candle as a reminder that Christ indeed is the light of the world.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Here on the heels of Christmas,

**All: We speak of love.**

One: We speak of joy.

**All: We speak of candlelight and fireside.**

One: We speak of dreams being fulfilled.

**All: We speak of “glorias” and angel choruses.**

One: We speak the words, “Do not be afraid.”

**All: Here on the heels of Christmas,**

We are called to speak, for the world needs a light.

**One: A light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it.**

**All: Let us worship and listen. Then, let us speak. Amen.**

## Opening Song

*Andy & Svetlana Maddox*

**Hark! The Herald Angels Sing #240 v. 1, 2**

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### Verse 1

Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King  
Peace on earth and mercy mild  
God and sinners reconciled  
Joyful all ye nations rise  
Join the triumph of the skies  
With th'angelic hosts proclaim  
Christ is born in Bethlehem

Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King

### **Verse 2**

Christ by highest heaven adored  
Christ the everlasting Lord  
Late in time behold Him come  
Offspring of a Virgin's womb  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see  
Hail th' incarnate Deity  
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell  
Jesus our Emmanuel  
Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King

## **OPENING PRAYER**

Saving God, the prophet Anna and righteous Simeon sang your praise and proclaimed Jesus our Lord to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. Let us who dream and who seek redemption in this day prepare our hearts, that we may believe the good news of Jesus, receive the light of salvation, and live according to your word. In Jesus name we pray Amen.

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## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

The world needs the good news that God is in our midst. We are not called to be silent.

So family of faith, please repeat after me our prayer of confession:

God of today and tomorrow,

We know

That your fingerprints are all over this world.

And we know

That those who dream cannot keep silent.

So today we pray,  
Give us eyes to see you.  
Give us ears to hear you.  
Give us courage to trust you.  
And give us lips to speak of you in our midst.  
Gratefully we pray, Amen.

## **CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

### **SCRIPTURE**

*Luke 2:22-40*

### **SERMON**

*Rev Christina*

Those Who Dream Will Not Be Silent

### **SONG**

*Andy and Svetlana Maddox*

#### **There's a Song in the Air 249 v. 1, 3, 4**

There's a Song in the Air #249 CCLI Song # 272136 Josiah Gilbert Holland | Karl Pomeroy Harrington

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#### **Verse 1**

There's a song in the air  
There's a star in the sky  
There's a mother's deep prayer  
And a baby's low cry  
And the star rains its fire  
While the beautiful sing  
For the manger of Bethlehem  
Cradles a King

#### **Verse 3**

In the light of that star  
Lie the ages impearled  
And that song from afar  
Has swept over the world  
Every hearth is aflame  
And the beautiful sing  
In the homes of the nations  
That Jesus is King

#### **Verse 4**

We rejoice in the light  
And we echo the song  
That comes down through the night  
From the heavenly throng  
Ay we shout to the lovely  
Evangel they bring  
And we greet in His cradle  
Our Savior and King

#### **Confession of Faith**

Anna and Simeon's professions of faith inspired everyone around them because they spoke their beliefs out loud for others to hear. Let us mirror their conviction and courage by speaking aloud what we believe:

One: We believe in telling the story—

**All: The story of a loving and merciful God, Who will not let God's people go; The story of a baby who grew up and changed the world; The story of our faith.**

One: We believe in speaking up—

**All: For our neighbors, For the oppressed, For the overlooked, And marginalized.**

One: We believe in speaking out—

**All: Against violence, Greed, Abuse, Fear, Scarcity mindset, and bigotry.**

One: We believe in passing the mic—

**All: So that we are not the only ones speaking, So that we can lift up the voices of those around us, So that we too might listen and learn.**

One: We believe in the good news of the gospel.

**All: We believe that this good news is too good to keep to ourselves.**

**We believe that those who dream cannot keep silent.**

One: Speak to us, Holy God.

**All: Speak through us, Holy God.**

**May it be so, Amen.**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

O God you are a Holy Dreamer and a light bearer. We now lift to you our prayers.

When they saw Jesus, Anna and Simeon spoke your praise. In this time, we now lift our own prayers of gratitude and praise:

**Holy Dreamer, with our eyes we have seen your salvation.**

Anna and Simeon had dreams for a better world. We, too, have these dreams—and we won't keep silent about them. We now offer our dreams to you:

**Holy Dreamer, with our eyes we have seen your salvation.**

When Anna and Simeon speak, their voices are heard and what they say is received with reverence.

Yet, we live in a world where not all voices are heard—instead, many are silenced. We now lift our prayers for those whose voices are silenced or muted:

**Holy Dreamer, with our eyes we have seen your salvation.**

Holy God,

We lift all these prayers, written and unwritten, spoken and unspoken, to you. Hold them with care.

Give them life. Breathe your grace into them and make all things new.

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

*Rev. Dewey Knowles*

## **OFFERING**

With thankful hearts, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Ways to give for both churches are there on the screen.

Let us pray over the offerings that we will offered in both churches.

Loving God, we give you thanks for the light of the world, Jesus Christ, through you have come that we might know who you are and that you are here with us. O God we pray that you would bless these

offerings as they are gathered that they would be used to share and spread the good news of Jesus' light into the world. We pray this in the glory of your name. Amen (Written by Rev. Christina)

## **CLOSING SONG**

*6 Ways to Sunday*

### **Go Tell it on the Mountain #251**

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#### **Chorus**

Go tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and everywhere  
Go tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born

#### **Verse 1**

While shepherds kept their watching  
O'er silent flocks by night  
Behold throughout the heavens  
There shone a holy light

#### **Verse 2**

The shepherds feared and trembled  
When lo above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus  
That hailed the Savior's birth

#### **Verse 3**

Down in a lowly manger  
The humble Christ was born  
And God sent us salvation  
That blessed Christmas morn

## **SENDING FORTH**

Open our eyes to see your light shining all around us  
Open our ears to hear the voices of those crying out.  
Open our mouths to speak aloud your dream for this world.  
Guide our feet so that we might walk in your way of peace.  
We are listening. We are grateful.  
Amen.

## **PASSING THE PEACE**

May the peace of the Christ Child be with you  
**And also with you**

## **INVITATION TO NEXT WEEK**

I invite you to join us next week when we will be sharing worship from Samson UMC with Pastor Lesli McGowan as we celebrate Epiphany.

After worship, you are invited to join us for fellowship time on Zoom. The link to join us is in the email you received with the links to this service. There are also instructions on this screen. We will gather about 10:45.

You are also invited to join us on our Facebook Group Whitney United Methodist church group to chat about the service. You can join the conversation anytime.

There are many ways to connect with us even as we are physically distancing.

Our radio program Reach Out and Trust broadcasts on KBXL 94.1 FM on Sunday morning at 7:30 am and 11:30 am. Today my sermon from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent will be broadcast and next Sunday it will be the sermon from the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent.

**May God be with us until we meet again.**

All of the liturgy except for the opening prayer and the offertory is from *Those who dream* from A Sanctified Art. Resources used with permission from *A Sanctified Art* from Sanctifiedart.org