WEST BERLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dr. Robert J. Gustafson, Pastor

Established 1876 Julia Roll, Organist 1st Sunday of Advent

Charles Glass, Liturgist Amy Martindale, Principal Vocalist

December 1, 2024

GATHERING TIME (10:15 – 10:30 AM) Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6145951009 Dial 929 436 2866 or 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 614 595 1009

WELCOME God is Good. All the time. & All the time. God is good.

Susan and Scott Fisher ADVENT LITURGY – HOPE

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: There will be signs in the heavens and distress among the nations. P: When Christ returns in power and glory people will faint with fear.

L: But when you see these things, lift up your heads: **P: our redemption is drawing near!**

L: Heaven and earth may pass away, **P: but the Word of God will stand unshaken.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus said, Do not let your hearts be weighed down by the sins and worries of this life, but watch and pray for the grace of God, who will save you in your time of trial. With confidence in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven. Thanks be to God. May the Lord guide your way, strengthen you in all holiness, and make you abound in love for one another and for all.

"Gloria Patri" CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE No. 9 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION & FIRST READING

The Righteous Branch and Jeremiah 33:14-16

the Covenant with David

¹⁴ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

YOUTH MESSAGE Are You Ready?

SPECIAL MUSIC

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹² And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³ And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON "Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love"

HYMN "Because He Lives" No. 256 (See attached)

ANNOUNCEMENTS - JOYS & CONCERNS – PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE – 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING - PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING – DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
THE GREAT THANKSGIVINGAnd also with you.The Spirit of God be with you all.And also with you.Lift up your hearts.We lift them to God.Give thanks to our God!All our thanks, all our praise.

Before all that is, you were God. Outside...

And this is our song: Holy, holy, holy God, our life, our mercy, our might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Save us, we pray, you beyond all. Blest is the One who comes in your name. Save us, we pray, you beyond all. Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three!

You beyond the galaxies, ...

And so we cry, come, Holy Spirit:		Come, Holy Spirit!	
And so the church shouts, come, Holy Spirit:		Come, Holy Spirit!	
And so the earth pleads, come, Holy Spirit:		Come, Holy Spirit!	
S	HARING OF THE FEAST		
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION			
HYMN	"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"	No. 163	(See attached)

CHARGE, BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE

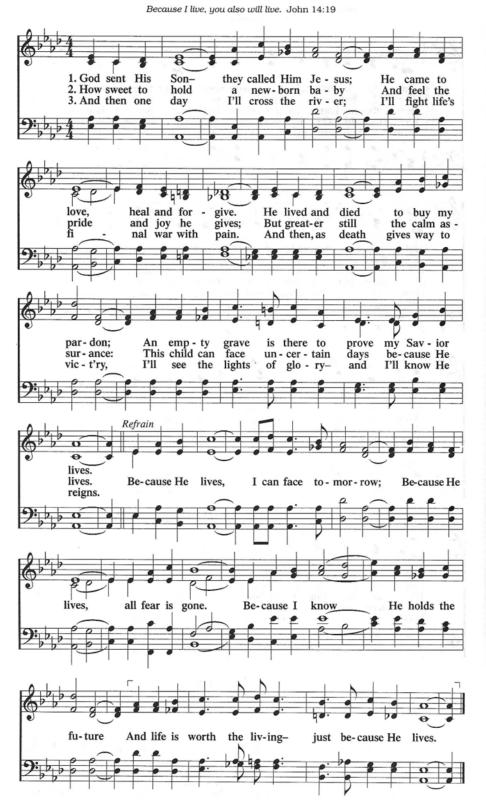
May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.

Grant you joy, perfect peace, strength in every endeavor.

Lift your eyes and see his face, feel his grace forever.

May the Lord mighty God bless and keep you forever.

Because He Lives



ADVENT

