

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2014

10:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music
Concerns of the Church

Prelude Variations on "Watchman, Tell Us of the Night" Simmons

Call to Worship

A voice cries in the wilderness,

Prepare the way of the Lord; make God's way clear.

Lift up every valley; lower every mountain.

For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

* Hymn 104 "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"
Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

**Holy and loving God,
we have dwelt in darkness and preferred it to the light;
we have been proud of our accomplishments
and despaired over our shortcomings.
Smooth down the mountains of our pride,
and lift up the valleys of our doubts.
Open a path in the wilderness of our lives
that we might find our way to you again.
Refine us with the fire of your Spirit
and prepare us once again for life in your kingdom.**

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon

* Passing of the Peace

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Response (Hymnal 95)

**Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,
And all people will see the salvation of our God.**

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11 (OT, p. 667)

A Time with Children

Anthem "Kyrie Eleison" Earlene Rentz
Our young children are invited to attend "Joyful Noise" in room 103.

Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:1-8 (NT, p. 34)

Sermon: "Turn Around"

Rev. Carter

Theme: Advent Awakenings

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 96 "On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry"

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (Hymnal, p. 35)

Offering

Offertory "Comfort, Comfort These My People" arr. Callahan
Joyful Noise! participants will return to the sanctuary.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving (Hymnal, p. 9)

The Lord's Prayer

The Words of Institution

Communion of the People

*Please hold the bread until all are served, so that we might share it as a sign
of our unity in Christ. As a sign of individual devotion and commitment, you
may drink the cup as you are served.*

Prayer after Communion

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 347 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent"
Joyful Noise! participants will return to the sanctuary.

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude "Savior of the Nations, Come" arr. Callahan

* All who are able shall stand.

The flowers this morning have been given by the Deacons to the Glory of God and in honor of the congregation.

Lighting the Advent Wreath this morning are John and Alyson Bruce and family.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William G. Carter
Director of Educational Ministries	Tina Ide
Director of Music	Susan Kelly
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Betsy Ellis
<i>Joyful Noise</i> leaders	Grace Farrell, Robin Pinches
Ushers	Sarah Ann Hosier and Anne Deremer
Welcomer	Linda Schuller



We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.



SECOND SUNDAY OF

Advent

**First Presbyterian Church
300 School Street
Clarks Summit, PA 18411
570/586-6306**

www.fpccs.org

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,'"

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."