

Astoria First United Methodist Church
December 19, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Advent

ORDER OF WORSHIP
*(*please stand if you are able)*

GATHERING MUSIC		Kristin Hammond
ANNOUNCEMENTS		Mary Frances Gunn
CENTERING MUSIC	<i>“Manger Medley”</i>	Kristin Hammond
WORDS OF WELCOME		Mary Frances Gunn
HYMN	<i>(verses 1 & 2)</i> <i>“O Come, All Ye Faithful”</i>	Congregation UMH #234
*CALL TO WORSHIP	<i>(If you are able, please stand) (Read responsively)</i>	Janet Todd
L: God has done great things for us!		
P: God’s love is heralded in the promise of Christ.		
L: Holy is God’s name!		
P: God’s promises are fulfilled in the coming of Christ.		
L: God’s mercy extends from generation to generation.		
P: God’s salvation is offered in the gift of Christ.		
ADVENT WREATH		Lorel Bresko and Sue Hicks
OPENING PRAYER		Mary Frances Gunn
SCRIPTURE READING	<i>“Micah 5:2-5a”</i>	Janet Todd
But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.		

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Ding, Dong Merrily on High”

Kristin Hammond

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Mary Frances Gunn

UNISON PRAYER (congregation)

Janet Todd

Amazing and holy Creative God, who has seen the beginning and understands the end, the One who is omnipresent with us, sending us the power of the Holy Spirit through the messenger and the message, we are overwhelmed by your omnipresent grace. We give thanks for each magnificent moment you have painted on the canvas of life, seeing the vision of humanity before the seed had every been planted. We give thanks for the miracles that happen throughout our lives that open our eyes to the wonder of your Creation. We know that you use these moments through your gifts to constantly transform toward the mission in the world. Each and every action toward good brings us that much closer to your love and grace. We honor you delight in you, and seek to respond faithfully to you as we under your gift of salvation.

Take our actions, our words, our good deeds, and use them all to your glory. Help us be vessels of your transforming power as you bring healing to the brokenness of our world. We love you, God, and we3 are forever changed by your Son, whose message we remember this Advent season and whose Spirit we will join as we go about doing all the good we can in the world you have made.

This, O Holy Creator, and so much more, we offer to YOU! Amen.

(by Amy Valdez Barker from *“All the Good; a Wesleyan Way of Christmas”*)

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Mary Frances Gunn

The ancient promises of God are fulfilled. God does not forget us. God’s mercy extends from generation to generation. Let our souls rejoice in God!

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR BEST GIFTS TO GOD

***DOXOLOGY**

**Congregation
UMH #95**

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**We welcome to our friends from the Warrenton UMC
as they join us for worship.**

December 26 – Dave Kinman will be with us again.

One of the best ways we can continue to uphold Pastor Michael is to attend
worship in his absence.

**We still need volunteers for liturgist each week.
Please call Sue Hicks or Mary Frances Gunn if you wish to help.
If you want to provide special music – let Mary Frances know.
We now have recordings of the worship services available as a link.**