

CENTRAL

United Church of Christ
GROW FAITH • SHARE LOVE • REACH OUT

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November 29, 2020
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PRELUDE

"The Coming of Jesus"

- Clokey

OPENING HYMN "Hark the Glad Sound the Saviour Comes"

Hark, the glad sound, the Saviour comes,
The Saviour promised long:
Let every heart prepare a throne,
And every voice a song,
And every voice a song.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim;
And heaven's eternal arches ring
With Thy beloved name,
With Thy beloved name.

CALL TO WORSHIP

You alone, O Lord, are God.
Come down, O God!
You have done wonderful things in the past.
Come down, O God!
We need you here with us now.
Come down, O God!
We wait for you.
We wait with hope.

GATHERING PRAYER

O God, come to us in our need. Like a shepherd, you care for us. Like a potter, you shape our lives. Faithful God, we are waiting for you. Light our spirits with your eternal love. Shape us with your hands, that we may be vessels fit to receive your presence. We are waiting, Holy One, and place our trust in your love. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Mark 13:24-37

SPECIAL MUSIC "Festive Procession" - Central UCC Choir

(Christiansen)

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Judith Scott

***THE APOSTLE'S CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth:
And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, dead, and buried:
He descended into hell;
The third day he rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit;
One holy and universal Christian Church;
The Communion of Saints;
The Forgiveness of sins;
The Resurrection of the body,
And the Life everlasting.
Amen.

(Adapted from the *Book of Common Prayer, 1662*)

The earliest form of the Apostles' Creed probably was based on Matthew 28:19, part of the Great Commission, and it has been argued that this earlier text was already in written form by the late 2nd Century, around 180 A.D.

The Apostles' Creed probably is derived from the Old Roman Creed known also as the Old Roman Symbol. As we know it, the Apostles' Creed is trinitarian in structure with sections affirming belief in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, based on Christian theological understanding of the canonical gospels, the letters of the New Testament and to a lesser extent the Old Testament.

Because of the early origin of its original form, it does not address some Christological issues defined in the Nicene and other Christian creeds. Thus, it says nothing explicitly about the divinity of either Jesus or the Holy Spirit. Nor does it address many other theological questions which became objects of dispute centuries later. However, many Protestant denominations, especially those with a more formal worship structure, continue to include the Apostles' Creed in services.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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.

OFFERTORY SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:21 "...where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

CLOSING HYMN "Watchman, Tell Us of the Night"

Watchman, tell us of the night,
What its signs of promise are:
Traveler, o'er yon mountain's height,
See that glory-beaming star!
Watchman, doth its beauteous ray
Aught of joy or hope foretell?
Traveler, yes; it brings the day,
Promised day of Israel.

Watchman, tell us of the night,
For the morning seems to dawn:
Traveler, darkness takes its flight;
Doubt and terror are withdrawn.
Watchman, let thy wanderings cease;
Hie thee to thy quiet home.
Traveler, lo, the Prince of Peace,
Lo, the Son of God is come!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Saviour of the Nations, Come"

- Manz

(All Hymns and Songs reprinted under CCLI)

Our WORSHIP is ended...our SERVICE now begins.

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Ministers – Every Member
Pastor – Rev. Dr. Judith Scott
Young Youth Director/Bell Choir Director – Rene Miserez
Organist – Shirley Klein

Please keep each other in prayer, particularly those for whom God's healing touch is of special comfort.