



**Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church  
Online Worship Service  
Sunday, December 13, 2020**

**Gathering Around the Word**

**Welcome and Announcements**

The Rev. Katie Day

**Introit**

*"The Holly and the Ivy"*  
arr. Joseph Martin

Hyoun Joo Song

**Call to Worship**

The Rev. Jennie Sankey

One: Scripture is flooded with dream-like images: the lion lying down with the lamb, justice rolling like a mighty river, swords being beaten into plowshares, the prisoner being set free, good news to the oppressed, the whole world rejoicing.

**All: To our human ears, there are times when these words can sound like nothing more than a far-off dream. However, what we know is that to dream is to hope,**

One: and to hope is to imagine,

**All: and to imagine is to wonder,**

One: and to wonder is to believe,

**All: and to believe is to live and breathe the joy of the Lord.**

**Hymn 100**

*"My Soul Cries Out With a Joyful Shout"*  
*Canticle of the Turning*

# 100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

## Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you  
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be

By employing an energetic Irish folk song for its melody, this ballad-like paraphrase of the *Magnificat*, Mary's song at her meeting with her relative Elizabeth (Luke 1:46-55), recaptures both the wonder and the faith of the young woman who first recognized what God was doing.

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

A musical staff in G major (one sharp) with a treble clef. The notes are G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. Chords G, D, Em, C, and Em are indicated above the staff.

name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

*Refrain*

A musical staff in G major with a treble clef. The notes are G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. Chords G and D are indicated above the staff.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the

A musical staff in G major with a treble clef. The notes are G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. Chords Em, C, D, and Em are indicated above the staff.

fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the

A musical staff in G major with a treble clef. The notes are G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. Chords C, D, Em, C, and Em are indicated above the staff.

dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

## Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Dannemiller Family

**All: I dream of joy.**

One: I dream of every little thing that brings joy; and I know it comes from God. So today we light the candle of joy as a reminder that God's dream for this world involves the end of all tears. May this fire burn bright, and as it does, may we sing, may we dance, may we laugh, may we hold onto the people we love. May we sow joy in a hurting world, and may it be an act of holy resistance. This light is our invitation to be Advent people-people who dream. Amen.

## Response Hymn 383

*Dream On, Dream On* (stanza 1)

Dream on, dream on, children of peace, 'til on earth God's kingdom come.  
Wolf and lamb will feed together ; lions like oxen will eat straw.  
Dust shall be the serpent's food; no one shall destroy or hurt.  
Children of earth in all colors, live in peace and harmony.

## Call to Confession

The Rev. Jody

Andrade

## Prayer of Confession

O Great Writer, with a sky full of stars and a world full of flowers, there should be no end to our joy. And yet, instead of decorating our very beings with joy, we let it slip away like loose change. Instead of singing like Mary, or dancing like David, we pass by remarkable beauty and love most days, unfazed. Forgive us. Teach us the ways of children, who laugh and dance and sing as if joy is the very thing that keeps them alive. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

## Assurance of Forgiveness

### Passing of the Peace

Jody

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## The Word Read and Proclaimed

### Children's Sermon

Jody

### Prayer for Illumination

Macy Ruple

### First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11

Macy

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion - to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations;

they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.  
For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

**Anthem**

*"He is Born"*  
by Sandra Eithun

Pleasant Hill Masked  
Handbell Ensemble

**Second Scripture Reading**

Luke 1: 46-55

Katie

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

**Sermon**

"Those Who Dream: Sow Joy"

Katie

**Responding to the Word**

**Affirmation of Faith** (in unison)

Katie

Great Creator, we are in awe of you.  
We will never know how you managed to dream up  
Mountains and valleys,  
Freckles, dimples, and curly hair,  
A cool morning mist,  
The change of seasons,  
Or the magic of music.  
Your greatness is beyond our reckoning.  
And because we are in awe of you,  
We believe we must follow Mary's lead  
And allow our souls to sing.  
We believe that the appropriate reaction to your goodness

Is complete gratitude,  
Which looks like love for our neighbor,  
Justice for the poor,  
Food for the hungry,  
And joy that overflows.  
And even though we do not always believe in ourselves,  
We believe that our song is pleasing to you.  
We believe. Help our unbelief.  
In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

**Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer**

Jennie

**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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Invitation to Offering**

Jody

- To give: ● return to [www.pleasanthillpc.org](http://www.pleasanthillpc.org) and click on the Giving tab or
- text givePHPC to 73256 or
  - mail your offering to the church: 3700 Pleasant Hill Road Duluth, GA 30096

**Prayer of Dedication**

Jody

**Hymn 134**

*"Joy to the World"*

# 134 Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs  
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow  
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his  
 and heaven and na - ture sing,

and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,

While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

## Following the Word into the World

**Charge and Benediction**

Katie

**Postlude**

*“Sleepers Awake (BMV 645)”*

Hyoun Joo

by J. S. Bach

This morning's liturgy is adapted from  
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