PENNINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service for the Lord's Day

~ December 4, 2011~

The Second Sunday in Advent

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

GATHERING MUSIC

As the music begins, please quiet yourself in anticipation of the worship of God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"* Barbara B. Kinyon
The Bell Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Isaiah 40:3)

A voice cries "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord. Make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

As we worship today, let us prepare to welcome God's dramatic work in our midst, in our hearts, in our community, and in all of creation.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN *"Prepare the Way, O Zion"* Hymnal #13

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Life-changing Spirit, as we prepare the way for Christ, show us what needs to change – in our life together as a church, in our relationships, in our homes and beyond – that our lives may be turned around, more than we bargained for, but not less than we dared to hope, through Jesus Christ we pray. *(silent confession)*

Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*RESPONSE HYMN *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"(Verse 3)* Hymnal #31

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH — The Borden Family

ANTHEM — *"A Litany for Advent"* — Shirley McRae
Genesis and Gloria Deo Choirs

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN
(dismissal to childcare for children through age 3 – in the nursery, room 209 or to Cherub Choir for ages 4 – Grade 1 in room 206)

*HYMN — *"Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice"* — Sing the Faith #2089

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*
God of the universe, revealed to us in Holy Scripture through the writings of the prophets and the preaching of John the Baptist, you have called us to prepare our hearts for your coming. Ready us now to hear your Word and to respond in faithfulness. Amen

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON — Isaiah 40:1-11
NEW TESTAMENT LESSON — Mark 1:1-8

SERMON — *"Route One"* — Nancy A. Mikoski

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

CALL FOR THE OFFERING AND MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP
OFFERTORY — *"Every Valley"* — John Ness Beck
The Adult Choir
*THE DOXOLOGY — Hymnal #592
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(unison)*
Receive now our gifts, gracious God. May what we do as a church always point to Jesus Christ, whose coming we await with eager anticipation. Amen

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
INVITATION
GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
The prayer continues...

WORDS OF INSTITUTION
RECEIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP (Communicants shall partake of the bread when it is served and hold the cup so that we partake of it together. The purple cups are grape juice and the white are wine. Gluten-free bread is in the baking cup)

COMMUNION PRAYER *(unison)*
Thank you God for feeding us at this feast. Empower us by grace to live in peace as we await the day of Christ's coming. Amen

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN — *"People, Look East"* — Hymnal #12
*BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE — *"Chorale Improvisation"* — Paul Manz

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Worship notes: *congregation is invited to stand
Bold is to be said by congregation

CHURCH STAFF
Pastor: Nancy Mikoski *Pastor Emeritus*: William McQuoid
Office Administrator: Mary Coleman *Treasurer*: Marji McAvoy *Music Director*: William Alford
Children's Choirs: Michele Alford *Organist*: Donald Dolan *Bell Choir:* Laura McMillan
Seminarians: Justin Pannkuk, Pam Meilands
Sr. High Ministry Coordinator: Todd Tracy *Children's Ministry Coordinator*: Shannon Smythe
Nursery Care: Jessica Kvarta
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We are a Stephen Ministry Church