

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

Worship Celebration

December 20, 2015 – 8:00 a.m.

Sermon Notes:



Today's Servants

USHERS: William Hatcher, Madysin Hewitt, Kay & Jack Jones

ACOLYTE: Madysin Hewitt

READERS: Dr. Jan Elsea, Christian Curry, Dan Bacon

AUDIO: Jim DeBusk

VIDEO: Kim Summers

Our Mission:

*Alive with the Spirit,
we bring God's love into action
by igniting faith, transforming lives,
and creating community.*



Paradise Valley United Methodist Church

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God's Love in Action™

CCLI #1037088

MEDITATION

Perhaps it isn't a foolish waste of time to order our lives according to a story that is not yet complete. Perhaps living according to the promise of God locates us where we are most likely to regularly encounter the One who is life, fulfillment and freedom. ~ Christine Pohl

CHORAL INTROIT

* CALL TO WORSHIP and LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Rev. Dr. David Summers

Leader: When the night is long, when troubles are near,
when our patience is short,

**People: it is for you, O Lord, that we wait; it is you, O Lord,
who will answer.**

Leader: From ages past no eye has seen, no ear has heard,
no one has perceived any God besides you,
who works for those who wait.

**All: Light of our world, give us eyes to see and ears to hear
how you are at work. Make us wise to wait for you,
to watch for you, to hope in the promise fulfilled
as Christ comes again.**

* HYMN OF PRAISE *God Almighty, We Are Waiting* (see screen)

* OPENING PRAYER (in unison)

**Holy God, as Christmas draws near,
come lead us by your light to the cradle of peace.**

Come with angels to sing us to a deep joy.

**Give us strength that we will move with joy at the good news
of salvation you offer to all.**

Help us move towards Bethlehem in anticipation and hope. Amen.

* MOMENTS OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

*When you see an * in the order of worship, please stand as you are able.*

*Large-print bulletins, Bibles and hymnals, as well as assistive listening devices
and wheelchairs, are available from the ushers.*

* HYMN OF FELLOWSHIP *Angels We Have Heard on High* v. 1&2 No. 238

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Merciful God, harken to our need and come near.

So often when we cry to you, we do not hear your voice.

Too often when we look for you, we fail to see you in our lives.

**It is so easy for us to focus on ourselves and
forget the needs of your world around us.**

**Pour over us with your constant love and forgive us
so we may start life anew. Amen.**

Silent Prayer and Words of Assurance

Leader: In the Name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: **In the Name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

All: **Glory to God. Amen.**

(Please fill out and pass the fellowship pad)

ANTHEM *Ave Maria* Franz Schubert

Asleif Willmer, soprano; Dr. Andria Fennig, piano

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

SHARING OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Silent Night (in the setting of Debussy's 'Clair de Lune')*
arr. Carolyne Taylor

Sarah Sejen, piano

* **DOXOLOGY** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 95

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

SCRIPTURE *Magnificat (Luke 1:39-55)* Andrew Lloyd Larson
Paradise Singers

SERMON Rev. Dr. David Summers

Waiting
Part 4: The Wait Within

* **HYMN OF COMMITMENT** *My Soul Gives Glory to My God* No. 198