

Sanctuary Worship: November 29, 2020

(this service contains music from Handel's Messiah previously recorded by McFarlin's Chancel Choir, the Norman Philharmonic, Thomas Cannon, Nicole Van Every, Rodney Westbrook, soloists; John Morrow, organ)

Call to Worship

Sinfonia from "Messiah"

Welcome

Rockford Johnson

Hymn # 196

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Advent Reading/Candle Lighting

Sandy Minty

Congregational Prayer/The Lord's Prayer

Wendi Neal

God's Promise & Prophecy Known to Zechariah (Isaiah 40:1-5)

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.
Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished,
that her iniquity is pardoned.
The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness; prepare ye the way of the Lord;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry moutain and hill made low;
the crooked straight and the rough places plain.

Rodney Westbrook, Tenor

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together:
for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Chancel Choir

Reflection

Rockford Johnson

God Refines and Purifies Our Faith (Haggai 2:6-7; Malachi 3:2-3)

Thus saith the Lord, the Lord of hosts:
Yet once a little while and I will shake the heavens and the earth,
the sea and the dry land.
And I will shake all nations; and the desire of all nations shall come.
the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom you
delight in:
behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts.

But who may abide the day of His coming, and who shall stand when He appeareth?
For He is like a refiner's fire.

Thomas Cannon, bass

And He shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.
Chancel Choir

Reflection

Even In Times of Darkness, God Prepares the Light (Isaiah 7:14, 9:2)

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and gross darkness the people:
but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.
And the Gentiles shall come to thy light,
and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light:
and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death,
upon them hath the light shined.

Thomas Cannon, bass

Reflection

God Sets Us Free to Praise

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.
Then shall the lame man leap as an hart,
and the tongue of the dumb shall sing.

Nicole Van Every, soprano

Reflection

We Rejoice Greatly for the Promise of Salvation

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, thy King cometh unto thee; He is the righteous Saviour,
and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.

Nicole Van Every, soprano

Reflection

Sending Forth (Matthew 11:30)

His yoke is easy, his burden is light.

Chancel Choir

Postlude

Organ Concerto in F Major, HWV 292, IV. Allegro

Handel