

Stone Church of the Brethren

December 24, 2023, Fourth Sunday of Advent

How Does a Weary World Rejoice?

We Sing Stories of Hope

*"Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us"
-From "Lift Every Voice and Sing" by James Weldon Johnson*

WELCOME

Pastor Cindy

PRELUDE

What Child is This?
Loren & Donna Rhodes

English folk/
arr. Joel Raney

*ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

Bob & Sue Lamey

Bob: How does a weary world practice love?

**All: By sending cards,
and picking up the Phone.**

Bob: By practicing empathy, and assuming the
best in others. By learning people's stories
and finding common ground.

**All: By advocating for justice,
and saving a place at the table.**

Bob: There are a million ways to practice love.
So today we light the candle of love as a reminder
and a charge.

**All: With God's help, may we bring love
into a weary world. Amen.**

*SONG^

Light Dawns on a Weary World^ Bringle/Rowan

Mary Louise Bringle
TEMPLE OF PEACE
William P. Rowan

1. Light dawns on a weary world when
2. Love grows in a weary world when
eyes be - gin to see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty
hun - gry hearts find bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed.
Light dawns on a weary world: the
Love grows in a weary world: the
prom - ised day of jus - tice comes. The trees shall
prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs; the hills and
mountains shall break forth with singing! We shall go
out in joy, and be led forth in peace, as all the
world in wonder ech - oes sha - lom

POEM**

The Sound of Hope
By Sarah Are Speed

Jill Keeney

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Mini-Pageant**

Luke 2: 1-20

SONG

Light of the World^^
(sing twice)

Shawn Kirchner

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2: 67-79

Sandy Loughlin

ANTHEM

Song of Isaiah

Brad Nix

D A

Light of the World in - to our dark - ness come,

World Light of the

Bm A D

Light of the World in - to our dark - ness come,

World Light of the

G

Light of the World in - to our dark - ness come: Let

World

D A G D

Heav - en's will on earth be done.

Light of the

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Behold, the former things have come to pass,
the former things have come to pass,
And I make all things new. I make all things new,
All things new.

Behold, My Servant whom I adore,
My Elect One, in whom my soul delights!
I have put My Spirit upon Him. I have put My Spirit upon Him.
I have put My Spirit upon My Anointed One,
My precious Son.

He will bring forth justice to all the nations.
He will not cry out, nor raise His voice in the street.
He will not fail, nor be discouraged.
He brings justice to the earth,
And the nations all behold His glory, His glory.

I, the Lord, have called Him.
I have called Him in righteousness,
I have called Him in righteousness.
He shall be a covenant to the nations.
A covenant to the nations.

Behold, the former things have come to pass,
the former things have come to pass,
And I make all things new.
I make all things new,

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Pastor Cindy

SONG *Love came down at Christmas*[^] 208

REFLECTION Lift Every Voice and Sing Pastor Ben

*SONG *My Soul Cries Out*[^] Rory Cooney
 Nina Meadows & Marty Keeney, flutes

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that
the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on the servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blest,
could the world be about to turn?

My heart shall sing of the day you bring,
let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn!

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.

Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,
You will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring,
let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn!

Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.

This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise that holds us bound,

'Til the spear and rod be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring,
let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn!

*SENDING Pastor Ben

POSTLUDE *O Come, All Ye Faithful* John Wade/
 Donna & Loren Rhodes arr. Janet Vogt

**Please Rise, as Able, in Body or Spirit*

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Mini-Pageant Cast:

Narrator: Sam Closz

Joseph: Everett, Ezra Lattimer

Mary: Elise Weld, Nina Meadows

Gabriels: Cyrus Lattimer, Henry Elder

Shepherds: CC Elder, Ezra Elder, Scott Naylor,
Cory & Jess Buterbaugh

Sheep: Elsie Weld, Natalie & Beau Buterbaugh

Angel Chorus: Marty Keeney, Emily Elder, Pastor Ben

Inn Keepers: Sydney Paterson, Livi & Miles Hall, Sam & Zach Closz,
Natalie & Beau Buterbaugh, and other special guests

Animals: Any & all of us

Let us know you were here!

Scan the code to fill out the

Attendance Form:

