



SERMON “Give More Spend Less”
 Matthew 1:18-23
 Reflection

Rev. Danny Leonard

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

PRELUDE *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

Arr. M Hayes

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Pam Thomas, Brenda Atchley

***HYMN No. 202** *People Look East*

A LITANY OF WAITING

We are waiting for Love without end

without conditions

without violence

without fear

We are waiting for Justice without end

without vengeance

without hatred

without lies

We are waiting for Restoration without end

without favoritism

without fatigue

without debt

We are waiting for Joy without end

without reservation

without rebuke

without want

Holy Love, Divine Justice,

God of Peace, Restoration and Joy:

we are waiting for you.

We need you.

Amen.

-written by Rachel Hackenberg

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe in God,
creator and lover of the earth,
origin and destiny of us all.

We believe in Jesus the Christ—

God coming to us in the fragile promise of a baby yet unborn—

who emerges as the herald of hope,

God's laughter in the face of despair.

Plunged into death and hell,

he broke free the captives,

and is leading the way to the land of promise where justice and peace
will flourish.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

who implants the seed of truth,

brings us to birth as the body of Christ,

and empowers us to confront and transform all that is corrupt,
degrading and deceitful.

We believe in the coming reign of God.

Announced by the Baptist,

it has drawn near to us in Jesus,

and will be consummated in the glorious marriage of earth and heaven,

when all who have passed through the world's deep sorrow will be

raised from the waters,

robed in righteousness,

and gathered into the joyous fulfillment of God's desire.

For the coming of that day on this day,

we work and pray:

Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

CALL TO PRAYER

MORNING PRAYER

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And 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 PRESENT GIFTS

ANTHEM *Comfort, Comfort, O My People* Arr. Hal Hopson
Comfort, comfort, O my people, tell of peace, now says our God
Comfort those who sit in darkness bowed beneath oppression's load.
Speak unto Jerusalem; speak of peace that waits for them;
tell that all their sins are over; tell that warfare now is over.

Hark, the herald's voice is calling in the desert far and near, bidding us
to make repentance since the kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey: Now prepare for God away; let the valley's
rise to meet him; let the hills bow down to greet him.

O make straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain;
let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign.
See the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad; all the world
shall see this token, God' own word is never broken.

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Chancel Choir

***DOXOLOGY No. 95**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***HYMN No. 203** *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

***BENEDICTION**

***CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

POSTLUDE *Christians, We Have Met to Worship* Arr. M. Hayes

**Those who are able are invited to stand.
Items in bold indicate congregational response.*