

December 5, 2021 8:30am WORSHIP BULLETIN – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US TOGETHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Prelude *Variations on Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel* by Matthew Corl

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Wreath Lighting

*WL: By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.*

*The way of the Lord is to give
salvation to his people
by the forgiveness of their sins. (Luke 1:68-79)*

*Now it's time to light the candles,
Messengers prepare the way.
Wolf and lamb lie down together;
Righteousness marks God's new day.*

**C: Light will overcome the darkness:
See the hope the Christ Child brings.**

Candle Lighting Song ***O Come, O Come Emmanuel*** (ELW #253, verse 2)

**Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might,
who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times once gave the law
in cloud, and majesty, and awe.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you,
O Israel.**

Confession and Forgiveness

P: We worship this morning in the name of the Father, and the Son +, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God for whom we wait,

**C: in the presence of one another,
we confess our sin before you.
We fail in believing that your good news is for us.
We falter in our call to tend your creation.**

We find our sense of self in material wealth.
We fear those different from ourselves.
We forget that we are your children
and turn away from your love.
Forgive us, Blessed One,
and assure us again of your saving grace.
Amen.

P: God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you!
You are children of the Most High,
inheritors of the eternal promise,
and recipients of divine mercy.
God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.
Through the power of the Holy Spirit, I declare that
your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and the Son + and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Prepare the Royal Highway (ELW #264)

**1 Prepare the royal highway;
the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley
a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory,
foretold in sacred story:**

Refrain

**Hosanna to the Lord,
for he fulfills God's word!**

**2 God's people, see him coming:
your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him!
Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you!
No more shall doubt assail you! *Refrain***

**3 Then fling the gates wide open
to greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation
its tribute too may bring.
All lands will bow before him;
their voices join your singing: *Refrain***

**4 His is no earthly kingdom;
it comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom
and justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding
for kindness so abounding: *Refrain***

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

All : Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN SCRIPTURE, PREACHING AND SONG

FIRST READING Malachi 3: 1-4

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Philippians 1: 3-11

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Luke 3: 1-6

Before the Gospel is read:

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

After the Reading:

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry (ELW #249)

- 1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!
- 2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.
- 3 We hail you as our Savior, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away
like flow'rs that wither and decay.
- 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more;
oh, let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.

**5 All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore.**

APOSTLE'S CREED

P: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

After each petition.. P: Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

SHARING A SIGN OF CHRIST'S PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: And also with you!

GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SONG

Give Thanks (W&P #411)

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.**

**And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich,"
because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich,"
because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks!**

OFFERING PRAYER

WL: God of our waiting and watching,
we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives
to the service of all your people.
Prepare the way before us
as we meet you in this simple meal,
through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

SANCTUS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMN

Eat This Bread (ELW #472)

**"Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst."
(Sing 6 times)**

COMMUNION BLESSING

COMMUNION PRAYER

Most High God,
you have come among us at this table.
By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word,
sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all,
through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.
Amen.

GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US IN MISSION TO THE WORLD

BLESSING

P: The Lord Bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (ELW #254)

- 1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.**
- 2 Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.**

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE *Toccata in G* by Lani Smith

Music by Nancy Betz

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