



4th Sunday of Advent  
December 21, 2025 — 8:30 am Service  
Order of Worship  
FM Frequency 99.3  
Text: 419-482-8227

Lighting of the Advent Wreath/Love

*"By this the love of God is revealed in us: that God has sent his one and only Son into the world so that we may live through him. In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins." 1 John 4:9-10*

Passing of the Peace

L. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**A. And also with you.**

Invocation

L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**A: Amen.**

Prayer of the Week

Heavenly Father, thank You for loving us so much to send Jesus to be Emmanuel, God with us. May we see the world through Your eyes. Help us to take the opportunities You have given us to share Your love through acts of service, kindness, and forgiveness. Amen.

Hymn: ***O Come, O Come Emmanuel***

Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel

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

Oh, come, strong Branch of Jesse, free  
Your own from Satan's tyranny  
From depths of hell your people save  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel

*"Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel" Henry Sloane Coffin, Thomas Helmore, and John Mason Neale Public Domain CCLI License #619995*

#### Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the Inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly  
love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**A: Amen.**

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our  
sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.  
Most merciful God,

**A: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against  
you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We  
have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For  
the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that  
we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives  
you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children  
of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

**A. Amen.**

#### Greeting

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

**A: And also with you.**

#### Kyrie

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**A: Lord, have mercy**

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**A: Lord, have mercy**

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**A: Lord, have mercy.**

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**A: Lord, have mercy.**

**L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.**

**A: Amen.**

#### This Is The Feast

**L: This is the feast of victory for our God, Alleluia.**

**A: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory of our god, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

#### Scripture Isaiah 49:8-13

*"Thus says the LORD: 'In a time of favor I have answered you; in a day of salvation I have helped you; I will keep you and give you as a covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages, saying to the prisoners, 'Come out,' to those who are in darkness, 'Appear'. They shall feed along the ways; on all bare heights shall be their pasture; they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them, for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them. And I will make all my mountains a road, and my highways shall be raised up. Behold, these shall come from afar, and behold, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene.' Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the LORD has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted. "*

#### Acts 9:9-23

*"And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank/ now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias'. And he said, 'Here I am, Lord'. And the Lord said to him, 'Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; and taking food, he was strengthened.*

*For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.' And all who heard him were amazed and said, 'Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?' But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ. When many days had passed, the Jews plotted to kill him,"*

#### Luke 1:46-56

*"And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for*

*he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever. And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home."*

#### Scripture Closing

L. This is the Word of the Lord.

**A. Thanks be to God!**

Sermon — *"The Season of Love"*      Pastor David Kaiser

#### Apostle's Creed

**ALL: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

#### Hymn: ***What Child Is this***

What child is this, who, laid to rest  
On Mary's lap is sleeping  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping  
This, this is Christ the King  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing  
Haste, haste to bring him laud  
The babe, the son of Mary

Why lies he in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through  
The cross be borne for me, for you  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh  
The babe, the son of Mary

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh  
Come peasant king to own him  
The King of kings salvation brings  
Let loving hearts enthrone him

Raise, raise the song on high  
The virgin sings her lullaby  
Joy, joy for Christ is born  
The babe, the son of Mary

*"What Child Is This" William Chatterton Dix Public Domain CCLI License #619995*

#### Words Of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

#### 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 and ever. Amen.**

#### Lamb Of God

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

#### Communion

#### Post Communion Blessing

L: *(Please stand and join with those close to you. . .)* May the body and the blood of our Lord Jesus, now in you, strengthen you in body and preserve you in faith to life everlasting.

**A: Amen.**

L: O give thanks to the Lord for he is good,

**A: and his mercy endures forever. Amen.**

#### Corporate Prayer

We pray together prayers of:

Adoration

Confession

Thanksgiving

Supplication

#### Benediction

L: Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

**A: Amen.**

Go In Peace

L: Go in peace, Read the word, Study the word, Serve the Lord.

**A: Thanks be to God!**

Closing Hymn: ***O Little Town of Bethlehem***

O little town of Bethlehem  
How still we see thee lie  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight

For Christ is born of Mary  
And gathered all above  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth  
And praises sing to God the king  
And peace to all the earth

How silently, how silently  
The wondrous gift is giv'n  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of his heav'n  
No ear may hear his coming  
But, in this world of sin  
Where meek souls will receive him still  
The dear Christ enters in

*"O Little Town Of Bethlehem" Lewis Henry Redner|Phillips Brooks ©Public Domain CCLI License #619995*

***"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoiced in God my Savior,..."***

**Luke 1:46-47**

## **Sermon Notes**

### **The Season of Love**

⇒ What is the definition of Love?

⇒ Who are we supposed to love?

⇒ Getting personal: who are you failing to properly love?

## Those To Pray For

**HOSPITALIZED:**

**IN HOSPICE CARE:**

**CONTINUE TO KEEP IN PRAYER:** Tom Walker, Edna Hollar, Joy Hodak, Charles Simpson, Carolyn Schell, Elizabeth Ford, Scribner Family, Joyce Wheeler, Diane Debien, Don Krause, Fred Dais, Patty Komisar, Judy Clymer, Lynda Dunn, Pam Walker, Nancy Belt, Lonna Young, Andrea Penzinski, George Hochmuth, Bob Clymer, St. Paul's homebound

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES:** Brian Lange, Abe Diaz, Nicholas Brice, Jacob Brice, Trey Olman