

Morning Worship
First Sunday of Advent
December 3, 2023

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (TH194, vv. 1, 4)

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.*

Refrain: *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain*

Call to Worship

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

- Psalm 100

Adoration

***Opening Hymn**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (TH203)

*Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

Refrain: *Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."*

*Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Refrain*

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

*Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.* Refrain

***Invocation**

***The 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Reception of New Members

Mr. Drew and Mrs. Allison Murrell

Confession

Call to Confession

Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. Therefore stay awake--for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning--lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake (Mark 13:33-37).

Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty God, You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all your people (Isaiah 64:5-6, 8-9).

Silent Confession of Sin

Assurance

Assurance of Pardon

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge--even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you--so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus

Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord (1 Corinthians 1:4-9).

Thanksgiving

Offertory

***Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavn'ly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***Offertory Prayer**

Petition and Intercession

Pastoral Prayer

Instruction

***Hymn of Preparation**

The Mighty God, the Lord (TH316)

*The mighty God, the Lord, hath spoken unto all;
from rising to the setting sun, he unto earth doth call.
From Zion, his own hill, where perfect beauty dwells,
Jehovah hath his glory shown, in brightness that excels.*

*Our God shall surely come, and silence shall not keep;
before him fire shall waste, and storms tempestuous round him sweep.
He to the heav'ns above shall then send forth his call,
and likewise to the earth, that he may judge his people all.*

*"Together let my saints unto me gathered be,
those that by sacrifice have made a covenant with me."
Then shall the heav'ns declare his righteousness abroad;
because the Lord himself is judge, yea, none is judge, but God.*

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 38

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

New Testament Reading

Matthew 1:1-3

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Communion

***Hymn of Preparation**

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You (TH156)

*O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord, Most Holy, your lamp within my breast
to do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.*

*Love caused your incarnation, love brought you down to me;
your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.
O love beyond all telling, that led you to embrace,
in love all love excelling, our lost and fallen race!*

*Rejoice, then, you sad-hearted, who sit in deepest gloom,
who mourn o'er joys departed and tremble at your doom.
Despair not, he is near you, yea, standing at the door,
who best can help and cheer you and bids you weep no more.*

*Sin's debt, that fearful burden, let not your soul distress;
your guilt the Lord will pardon and cover by his grace.
He comes, for men procuring the peace of sin forgiv'n,
for all God's sons securing their heritage in heav'n.*

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Sursum Corda

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And with your spirit.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is good and right to do so.

Charge and Blessing

***Closing Hymn**

Joy to the World! The Lord is Come (TH195)

*Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.*

*Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: let men their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.*

***Benediction**

**congregation standing*

***universal*