

November 29, 2020

*This is the day that the LORD has made,  
let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24*



**Offering** Please put tithes in lock box at the back of sanctuary before the service begins.

**Prelude** *Of the Father's Love Begotten  
Angels We Have Heard on High*

arr. Southbridge  
arr. Culli

## Welcome and Announcements

**\*Call to Worship**

Psalm 37:5-6

**\*Hymn of Praise**

*O Come O Come Immanuel*

No. 194

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come Thou Lord of might, who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,  
in ancient time didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.  
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.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Key of David, come and open wide our heav'nly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

## **\*Prayer of Invocation**

### **Lighting of the First Advent Candle: Hope**

#### **Scripture Reading**

**Luke 2:26-38**

#### **Prayer of Confession**

Our Gracious Heavenly Father, our sins are many, and there is nowhere for us to turn to for forgiveness and relief except to you. We thank you and praise you that you are a God who hears the prayers of your people, and that you always receive the prayers of your contrite children. May we always flee to you in times of trouble, and may we always be deeply convicted of our sin. Help us more and more to obey your earnest desires for us, and continue to wash us clean of our sins when we fall short. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

#### **Assurance of Pardoning Grace**

**Psalm 37:8-9**

<sup>8</sup> Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret – it leads only to evil. <sup>9</sup> For evil men will be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.

#### **\*Hymn of Thanksgiving**

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

No. 196

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.

Joy to those who long to see Thee, Dayspring from on high, appear;  
come Thou promised Rod of Jesse, of Thy birth we long to hear!  
O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth:  
"Go to Him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness, He whose glories knew no end;  
by His life He brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.  
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;  
This the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

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.

## Westminster Shorter Catechism 98-99

Q. 98 What is prayer?

**A. Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgment of his mercies.**

Q. 99 What rule hath God given for our direction in prayer?

**A. The whole word of God is of use to direct us in prayer; but the special rule of direction is that form of prayer which Christ taught his disciples, commonly called the Lord's prayer.**

## Prayer of Intercession

### \*Hymn of Preparation

*I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*

Insert

## Sermon

Christmas with Abraham

Genesis 22:15-18

## Outline

1. Certainty
2. Promises
3. Fulfillment

## Questions:

1. What things are you most certain of in life? How do you know they will come about?
2. How is the promise of land in the Abrahamic covenant ultimately fulfilled?
3. How is the promise of people ultimately fulfilled?
4. How is Matthew 16:17-19 a partial fulfillment of the promise of military victory in Genesis 22:17b?

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
“PEACE on the earth, good will to men, from heav’n’s all-gracious King”;  
the world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heav’nly music floats o’er all the weary world:  
above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov’ring wing,  
and ever o’er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life’s crushing load, whose forms are bending low,  
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,  
look now! For glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing:  
O rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hast’ning on, by prophet bards foretold,  
when with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold;  
when PEACE shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,  
and the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

**\*Benediction**

**\*Gloria Patri**

No. 735

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

**\*Postlude**

*O Thou Joyful*

arr. Paxton

**\* Congregation:** Please stand as able.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Keyboard**  
**French Horn**  
**Intercessory Prayer**

Sandy Schoon  
 Becky Schoon  
 Yon Lindborg

**Weekly Calendar**

| <u>DATE</u>      | <u>TIME</u>                    | <u>EVENT</u>  |
|------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>SUN 11/29</b> | 9:00 AM<br>9:15 AM<br>10:30 AM | <b>Opening Exercises</b><br><b>Sunday School</b><br><b>Worship Service – First Sunday of Advent</b><br>(available YouTube & Facebook) |
| <b>MON 11/30</b> | 6:30PM                         | <b>Hrivnak-Lindborg Care Group (Zoom)</b>   |
| <b>WED 12/2</b>  | 8:30 AM & 6 PM                 | <b>Women’s Bible Study</b>  |

|                 |                                |   |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>SUN 12/2</b> | 9:00 AM<br>9:15 AM<br>10:30 AM | <b>Opening Exercises</b><br><b>Sunday School</b><br><b>Worship Service- Second Sunday of Advent</b><br><b>LORD’s Supper</b><br>(available YouTube & Facebook) |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|---|

**December Birthdays**

1<sup>st</sup> Amberleigh Greene  
 16<sup>th</sup> Jerry DeGroot  
 30<sup>th</sup> Scott Severson

8<sup>th</sup> Kitty Hess  
 25<sup>th</sup> Ashely Stechly

**Serving the Lord**

|                   | 11/29         | 12/6         | 12/13          | 12/20       | 12/24        | 12/27     |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|
| AM Nursery        | N/A           | N/A          | N/A            | N/A         | N/A          | N/A       |
| Greeters          | N/A           | N/A          | N/A            | N/A         | N/A          | N/A       |
| Treats            | N/A           | N/A          | N/A            | N/A         | N/A          | N/A       |
| Serve/Cleanup     | N/A           | N/A          | N/A            | N/A         | N/A          | N/A       |
| Audio             | J. Martin     | B. Armstrong | B. Schoon      | J. Martin   | B. Armstrong | B. Schoon |
| Elder of the Week | Lindborg      | Gretzinger   | Nelson         | Lindborg    | Gretzinger   | Nelson    |
| Communion Helper  | N/A           | Aaron        | N/A            | N/A         | N/A          | N/A       |
| Advent Reader     | Chris & Cassy | Jim & Lorrie | Craig & Deanna | Jason & Val | Gretzinger   | N/A       |



## Announcements

- **LAST DAYS of 30 Days of Prayer for World Missions:** Please take the time to pray for these requests today and tomorrow, as well as beyond this month. Today is being marked as the Prayer new missionaries in Central, Asia, the Middle East, and North Africa.
- **Last Sunday for Deacon Fund Special Offering:** The Deacons are accepting voluntary offerings on behalf of MNA (Missions to North America), a PCA ministry that supports new church planting efforts in multi-ethnic or economically challenged neighborhoods. Through grants, Mission to North America can encourage the training of interns for ministry in those neighborhoods or provide grants for church planters to have benevolence funds at their disposal. A Thanksgiving offering is one of their primary methods of obtain the funds they need. If the Lord leads you to make a one-time gift, please make a note with your donation indicating MNA and place your gift in the offering box located at the sanctuary exit. Thank you.
- **Advent Season:** Keep an eye on the Christmas Calendar for upcoming events.

We still need a volunteer (single, couple, or family) to read the advent wreath prayer and verse for Christmas Eve. If you feel led to serve in that way, please contact Andrew or Cassy.