

December 1st, 2019

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

Please greet those around you before the announcements begin.

Moments of Meditation

While the music is being played, quietly prepare your heart for worship.

“

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman,
born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law,
so that we might receive adoption as sons.”

Galatians 4:4-7

Prelude

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

arr. Wolaver

Welcome and Announcements

Time of Greeting (Sharing God's Welcome)

Interlude

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

arr. Bock

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***Call to Worship**

Psalm 34:1-3

***Hymn of Praise**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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

Pastor: During the next few Advent Sundays, we will be focusing on the theme "Songs of Salvation" as found in the gospel of Luke. The songs Luke recorded are meant to fill our hearts with great rejoicing and to marvel at what God did in sending His Son to be our Redeemer.

People: **May all who see You rejoice and be glad in You; may those who love Your salvation say continually, "Great is the Lord."** (Ps. 40:16)

Light the 1st Advent Candle

Pastor: Break forth together into singing, everyone in Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted His people; He has redeemed Jerusalem. (Isaiah 52:9)

People: **Lift up your voice, sing for joy, for we see the return of the Lord to Zion!** (Isaiah 52:8)

Pastor: Our souls magnify the Lord!

People: **Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!**

Pastor: The mighty One has done great things for us!

People: Holy is His name!

Pastor: Let us worship the Lord for He is our Maker and our Redeemer; His mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation.
(Luke 1:46-50)

People: Blessed be the day when Jesus came to save and redeem His people!

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 12:1-10
Pew Bible Page 1806

Prayer of Confession

Our Heavenly Father, You have given us so very much. Food, water, clothing, and shelter; work and health and provision of every kind; friends, family, loved ones; all of these things You have seen to it that we have, abundantly so. And yet we confess to You today that we have been dissatisfied with at one time or another. We have often looked at what the world has to offer us and thought that Your generosity was insufficient. Selfishly our discontent heart's desire is for more and more. Father, forgive us of this sin, and teach us how to be content in this life. Help us to trust in Your good providence more and more so that we may be content in You. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Psalm 34:8-10

⁸ Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! ⁹ Oh, fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack! ¹⁰ The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

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!"
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 God-head see; hail th'incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

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

Heidelberg Catechism 60, 61

Q. 60 How are you righteous before God?

A. Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments, of never having kept any of them, and of still being inclined toward all evil, nevertheless, without any merit of my own, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner, and as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me. All I need to do is accept this gift with a believing heart.

Q. 61 Why do you say that through faith alone you are righteous?

A. Not because I please God by the worthiness of my faith. It is because only Christ's satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness make me righteous before God, and because I can accept this righteousness and make it mine in no other way than through faith.

Prayer of Intercession

Tithes and Offering

Of the Father's Love Begotten

arr. Martin

***Hymn of Preparation**

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

No. 195

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.

Outline

1. God desires contentment

2. The nature of contentment

3. Sacrificial giving

Questions for Further Reflection:

1. Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-15. Who does Paul use as examples of giving? Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-15. How are Christians to give? What are the results of generous giving for those who give and for those who receive?
2. Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10. What does Paul consider to be 'great gain'? What destroys contentment? Read Psalm 145 for another example of contentment.
3. Do I regard my Christian stewardship, particularly of my money, as a partnership? Or do I see it only as an investment with no return, a one-way-relationship (I give, they get)? If yes, does Philippians 4 help change that attitude?

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Please hold the elements so that we may all partake together.

The bread set apart is gluten free.

We use wine in the Lord's Supper, however, for those who prefer,
grape juice is provided in the outer ring of the tray.

*Hymn of Response

It Is Well with My Soul

No. 691

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way;
when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul."

Refrain:

It is well (It is well) with my soul, (with my soul).
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
and has shed His own blood for my soul. **(Refrain)**

My sin, O the bliss of this glorious thought!
my sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more;
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

Refrain:

It is well (It is well) with my soul, (with my soul).
It is well, it is well with my soul.

O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,
“Even so,” it is well with my soul. **(Refrain)**

***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.

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Piano & Organ
Intercessory Prayer

Sandy Schoon
Bruce Hrivnak, Elder

Weekly Calendar

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
SUN 12/01	9:00 AM	Opening Exercises
	9:15 AM	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 AM	Worship Service & The Lord's Supper
	5:00 PM	Youth Bible Study
	6:00 PM	<i>The Christmas Star</i> presentation
MON 12/02	6:00 PM	Hrivnak Care Group
TUES 12/03	6:00 PM	Session Meeting
SAT 12/07	8:00 AM	Men's Bible Study
	11:00 AM	"Matt Stechly, 'Beards & Bullseyes BBQ'"
	12:00 PM	Stechly Baby Shower
SUN 12/08	9:00 AM	Opening Exercises
	9:15 AM	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 AM	Worship Service
	6:00 PM	Prayer Meeting

Important Upcoming Events

SAT 12/21	12:00 PM	Christmas Cookie Exchange
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Serving the Lord

	12/01	12/08	12/15
AM Nursery	L. Martin, Grace M.	B. Schoon, Krystal T.	F. Armstrong, Cordie A.
Greeters	DeGroot	C.L. Yonker	J. Rogers
Treats	Lash	Schoon	J. Rogers
Serve/Cleanup	Lash	Schoon	Lindborg
Audio	J. Martin	B. Armstrong	B. Schoon
Communion Helper	Aaron L.	-----	-----
Elder of the Week	Hrivnak	Stoltzfus	Lindborg



December Birthdays

1 st Amberleigh Greene	8 th Benjamin Marshall	13 th Bryan O'Neal
16 th Jerry DeGroot	18 th Kathryn Robbins	25 th Ashely Stechly
26 th Matthew Vanderstar	29 th Grace Vanderstar	30 Scott Severson

Announcements

☞ **The Lord's Supper:** The Lord's Supper will be celebrated today. An offering for the Deacon's Fund will be received at the back of the sanctuary.

☞ **Order a Poinsettia in Memory of Your Loved One:** Holidays are a time to remember those loved ones who have gone before us. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia for \$5 we will purchase these and put them in the sanctuary on December 15. Please sign up for a poinsettia in the foyer and also list the name of the loved one whose memory you are honoring. These names will be posted in the bulletin on December 15 so we can honor these individuals as a congregation.

☞ **Christmas Star Presentation Tonight:** Bruce Hrivnak will give the presentation *The Christmas Star* at our church starting at 6 pm tonight. There will be refreshments after the talk. There are fliers on the table in the narthex that can be used to invite your friends and neighbors.

☞ **Christmas Eve Service:** A special service is scheduled for Tuesday, December 24, at 6:00 pm. Invite your friends to come and prepare for Christ's birth!

☞ **No Sunday School Classes:** There will be no Sunday School classes on December 22 and December 29. Classes will resume on January 5.

☞ **Stechly Baby Shower:** The ladies of Good Shepherd are hosting a baby shower for Ashley Stechly this Saturday, December 7. Please join us as we gather at the Gretzinger's home at 12:00 for food, fun, and fellowship celebrating Matt and Ashley's wonderful blessing! Ashley is registered at Babylist.com. Also, there are note cards placed on the table in the lobby if you would like to give Matt and Ashley a favorite Bible verse, quote, or special words of wisdom. We will collect them at the shower so please be sure to bring them with you! If you can't attend the shower but would still like to give them a note card, please return it to Lorrie, Jenni, or Valerie and they'll include it in the box. Please don't forget to RSVP!

☞ "**Matt Stechly, 'Beards & Bullseyes BBQ'**": This event will be held this Saturday, December 7 from 11 am till 2 pm at the Lindborg Farm, 3606 W. 800 S., Union Mills, IN 46382. Pulled pork BBQ with a side and drink will be served. Suggested donation of \$10 for lunch and \$5 per 25 shotgun shells. Please sign up in the foyer, and if you have any questions, please contact Pastor Andrew (andrew.gretzinger@goodshepherdca.net or 330-260-8142).

☞ **Christmas Cookie Exchange:** Jenni Gretzinger would like to invite the woman of Good Shepherd, and any family or friends that would like to come, to join in a new tradition of fellowship. On December 21 at 12:00 o'clock, we will have a cookie exchange. Please bring 4 dozen cookies (bought or homemade) and return home with a new assortment of cookies. A soup lunch will be provided for you. Save the date for a time of meditation on the advent season and singing some carols. What a lovely way to get to know each other a little more and celebrate the birth of our King! A sign-up sheet is on the table in the foyer. Hope to see you there! *Please don't let the need for 4 dozen cookies to keep you away.... bring any or none...