

<https://youtu.be/h3qIpiIWglQ>

Order of Worship, First Presbyterian Church
Sunday, November 29, 2020
1st Sunday of Advent

Announcements

Rev. Timothy Slemmons

Minute for Mission

“Joy Offering”

Rev. Leon Thompson

Prelude

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

arr. Blade

For Prayer and Reflection:

We look to you in our eager longing. Come to us, Immanuel. We await your revealing, your enthronement in our hearts to reign over us, your return to this world to restore creation. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Lighting of the Peace Candle

The McClain Family

Call to Worship

The Lord is coming to us soon. Make ready your hearts to receive Him.

We are caught up in the rush of the season. Calm us down, Lord.

The Lord is bringing peace to you.

Praise be to God who brings peace to a hectic world. Amen.

Opening Prayer

**Hymn of Praise #154*

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” vv. 1,2,4

Veni Emmanuel

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, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. (Refrain)

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. (Refrain)

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Dear Lord, forgive us when we have so easily succumbed to the anxieties, fears, and temptations of the season. Slow us down. Calm our spirits. Give us an awareness that this is the season of waiting and of preparation. Pour your peace into our hearts and help us to be bearers of peace to others. For we ask this in Jesus' precious Name.

Silent Confession (Here let each worshiper offer silent, personal prayers of confession)

Congregational Response

(tune: "O Little Town of Bethlehem")

**"O Holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today."**

Responsive Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, in response to your sincere confession to God, there's a special message for you.

What is it?

It's a word of peace, of God's brilliant peace for your lives.

What is that?

It is an awareness of God's loving presence in your lives in which your spirits are calmed and comforted, made ready to receive the Gift.

How can we find that peace?

Wait. Listen. Breathe deeply. God's gift will come to you.

When is it coming to us?

You may not know the hour or minute, but you can be assured that God's gift of God's own self will be given for you. Be ready. God's promise of peace is real, receive it and do not fear. Do not be afraid. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9

Special Music

"Advent Noel"

arr. Ryan

Second Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Sermon

"Waiting"

***Hymn of Response #152**

"Prepare the Way, O Zion"

Bereden Väg För Herran

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.

Refrain: Oh, blest is Christ that came
in God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding. (Refrain)

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace.
And tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him. (Refrain)

***Affirmation of Faith**

“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.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and 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.

***Sending Hymn #158**

“Blessed Be the God of Israel”

Merle’s Tune

Blessed be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free,
Who visits and redeems us, who grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release;
God shall fulfill that promise and bring our people peace.

Now from the house of David a child of grace has come,
A Savior who will lead us to our eternal home.
Before him goes the herald, forerunner in the way,
The prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.

On all by death imprisoned the sun begins to rise,
The dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner’s eyes,
To guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace;
O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

“Fling Wide the Door”

arr. Prentiss

**Those who are able, please stand*

Leaders in worship:

Liturgist: Hannah Eby

Preacher: Rev. Timothy Slemmons

Music Director & pianist: Kristen Eby

Special Music Director: Jill Klinebriel

Musicians: Alex Eby, Hannah Eby, John Eby

Technical Directors: Bryan and Sara Blair

Lectionary Reading for December 6

Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Mark 1:1-8

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

Words: Franzen/Music: Swedish Melody;
arr. Blade

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“Advent Noel”

Music: Chauvet; arr. Ryan

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“Blessed Be the God of Israel”

Words: Perry/Music: Hopson

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“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

Words: Latin, 9th c/Music: French melody
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“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

Words: Franzen/Music: Swedish Melody;
adapt. Price

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“Fling Wide the Door”

Words: Weissel/Music: Freylinghausen;
arr. Prentiss

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“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

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