

**THE WORSHIP OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**  
**AT SWIFT CHURCH**  
*First Sunday in Advent*

**ALL LITURGY IS CREDITED TO:**

Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed/A Sanctified Art  
LLC/sanctifiedart.org

**GATHERING**

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

**BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

(Inspired by Isaiah 43:1–4 and Luke 1:26–29)

Leader: God says,

**People: “Do not be afraid.”**

Leader: God says,

**People: “I will be with you.”**

God says,

**People: “I will be with you.”**

Leader: God says,

**People: “You are precious and honored in my sight.”**

Leader: At the beginning of the season,

**People: at the start of this week,**

Leader: at the top of this hour,

**People: May we wrap ourselves in these words.**

**May we begin again.**

Leader: Let us worship our Holy God!

**HYMN** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” #124

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH:**

**THE CANDLE OF HOPE** Greg and Sena Cooper

**RESPONSE HYMN** “While We Are Waiting, Come” Vs. 1

**While we are waiting, come;**

**While we are waiting, come.**

**Jesus our Lord Emmanuel,**

**While we are waiting, come.**

**MOMENT FOR YOUNG WORSHIPERS**

(And the young at heart!)

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Silent Prayer “If You Believe and I Believe”*

**Affirming God, your first words to creation were words**

**of love. You looked at this earth and said, “It is good.”**

**You spoke affirmations through the prophets. You**

**spoke blessings over Mary. You spoke belonging**

**through Christ. At every turn, you have reiterated that**

**we are a blessing, made in your image, held in your**

**love. Forgive us for forgetting this truth. Forgive us for**

**measuring our worth by society’s measuring stick**

**instead of yours. We believe. Help our unbelief.**

**In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.**

*(Prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed/A Sanctified*

*Art LLC/sanctifiedart.org)*

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: God says,

**People: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.**

**I have called you by name. You are mine.”**

Leader: We are forgiven. We are loved. Let it leave

you awestruck.

**People: Thanks be to God! May we believe it. Amen.**

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

**Leader:** The peace of Christ be with you all.

**People:** And also with you.

**\*RESPONSE**

“Gloria Patri” #623

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

**THE WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**FIRST READING**

Isaiah 43:1–7

**SECOND READING**

Luke 1:26–38

**RESPONSE**

**Leader:** This is the word of God for the people of God.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**SERMON**

“You Are a Blessing”

Rev. Alexandra Hutson

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**HYMN**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” #123, Vs. 1

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** “Brief Statement of Faith”

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the**

**grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,**

**and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one**

**triune God, the Holy One of Israel,**

**whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ,**

**Fully human, fully God.**

**Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good**

**news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching**

**by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick**

**and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts,**

**forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe**

**the gospel.**

**In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage**

**to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to**

**Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church**

*\*please stand as you are able*

and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### 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.

### OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Offertory "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*

**\*RESPONSE** "Doxology" #625  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### \*PRAYER AND DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

## CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

### THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also, with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## SENDING

**\*HYMN** "O Love That Will Not Let Me Go" #374

### \*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

### \*CHARGE

Leader: Good people of Swift Church, who are you?

People: **Striving to bring God joy, we proclaim Christ's love and grace through serving and nurturing body, mind, and soul.**

### \*BENEDICTION

**\*POSTLUDE** "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Music is licensed through CCLI.

Please join us in the fellowship hall for refreshments immediately following worship.



# Welcome to Swift Church

December 1, 2024

Striving to bring God joy!



We proclaim Christ's love and  
grace through serving and nurturing  
body, mind, and soul.

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