



Order of Worship

November 29, 2020

10:00 a.m. Service

*During this time of social distancing, we ask that all singing and responsive reading be done from behind a mask.
Thank you for doing your part to keep yourself and others safe during the pandemic.*

Prelude

Introit

Sing to the Lord!

Folts

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Shirley Dukes and Karen Clark

Let us pray:

Faithful God, out of war's chaos, you bring the order of peace.
Renew us in hope, that we may work toward Christ's advent of peace
among all nations.
God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come. Amen.

Call to Worship

*Hymn #41

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels!

Refrain:

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

2. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! (Refrain)

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! (Refrain)

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

God of Grace, whose mercy is fresh each morning: we confess to you our sin. We do not obey your commands and our sin is always with us. Forgive the doubt that misleads us and the despair that diminishes us. In your mercy cleanse us and help us to live joyful and obedient lives. In Christ's name we pray.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the Good News.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Congregational Response

Gloria Patri

Welcome and Announcements

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Hymn #592

The Doxology

*Prayer of Commitment 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.

*Choral Response

Anthem

Let There Be Light

McDonald

Scripture Reading

Timothy 1:12-17

¹² I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, ¹³ though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵ The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Time

*Hymn #13

Prepare the Way, O Zion

1. 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.
O blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.
2. Christ 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.
O blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.
3. Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace.
And tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing.
O blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 7:10-17

¹⁰ Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz: ¹¹ "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven."

¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test."

¹³ And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵ He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶ For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷ The Lord will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah – the king of Assyria!"

Sermon

Rev. Dr. David H. Green

Songs of the Season O Come, All Ye Faithful

"Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." (Isaiah 7:11)

*Affirmation of Faith

Excerpted from the Scots Confession (1560), Chapter 6

When the fullness of time came, God sent his Son, his eternal Wisdom, the substance of his own glory, into this world, who took the nature of humanity from the substance of a woman, a virgin and that by means of the Holy Spirit. And so was born the "just seed of David," the "Angel of the great counsel of God," the very Messiah promised, whom we confess and acknowledge to be Emmanuel, very God and very man, two perfect natures united and joined in one person.

*Prayers of the People

*Hymn #8

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates, behold, the King of glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here!
2. Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
From earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer, and love, and joy.
3. Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me Thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.

*Charge and Benediction

*Closing Response

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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!

*Postlude

*Please stand if able.

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Loving God • Investing in People • Living Generously