

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 5, 2021

2nd Sunday of Advent

PREPARATION, PROMISES, AND PRAISE

(We invite you to quiet yourself in preparation for the worship of God when you hear the prelude music.)

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO SHARE OUR LIFE IN CHRIST

Prelude "O, Come, Emmanuel" arr. Held

Call to Worship The Rev. Robert Smith

Leader: Our souls magnify the Lord!

People: Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

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

People: Holy is God's name!

Leader: Let us worship God.

**People: For God is our Maker and our Redeemer;
from generation to generation God gives mercy.**

—based on Luke 1:46-50

*Hymn "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" No. 197

*Prayer of Adoration

*Prayer of Confession (unison)

**While we ask, Lord, for the most meaningful Advent season ever, we sadly confess
having done so little with so much. Forgive us Lord,
for not bending the knee,
for not reading your Word,
for not searching our hearts,
for not facing our sins.**

**Forgive us according to your tender mercies, O God! Grant that when Christmas
morning breaks for us this year, we may have a fresh sense of your presence and a renewed
resolve to live to the praise of Christ's glory. Amen.**

*Assurance of Pardon

Here the Good News! *God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners,
Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved
from God's wrath through him!* Thanks be to God! —Romans 5:8-9

*Gloria Patri No. 579

(Let the children come forward during the singing of the Gloria.)

Lighting of the Advent Candle Alison & Wes Boozer

LISTENING TO THE WORD OF GOD

Children's Time The Rev. Robert Smith

Children's Worship is provided for ages 4–4th grade in Room 205.

Parents, please escort your children to this room.

*Hymn of Preparation "On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry" HS No. 3

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson: Malachi 3:1-4 Page 950

Leader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Anthem "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" arr. Scott

Scripture Lesson: Luke 3:1-6 Page 1016

Sermon "I'll Be Home for Christmas" The Rev. Robert Smith

RESPONSE IN DEDICATION AND OBEDIENCE

Prayers of the People of God and Our Lord's Prayer

*Affirmation of Faith "The Apostles' Creed" Page 742

The Offering of Ourselves to God and to One Another

Our Greetings

Offertory "Once He Came In Blessing" arr. Held

*"The Doxology" No. 731

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" No. 529

Advent Amen "Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, oh Israel. Amen!"

Postlude "Hark, the Glad Sound!" arr. Held

*The Congregation is asked to stand, as you are able.

CALENDAR

Today, 12/5 - Sunday School, 9:00 am; Worship, 10:30 am; Diaconate Mtg., 5:00 pm
Monday, 12/6 - Church office closed on Mondays; Sisters in Bible Study (SIBS), 6:00 pm; Sermon Apps, 7:00 pm
Tuesday, 12/7 - SIBS (Sisters in Bible Study), 9:30 am; Men’s ZOOM Bible Study, 12:00 pm; Adult Bible Study (ABS), 5:15 pm; Chancel Choir, 6:30 pm
Wednesday, 12/8 - Youth Group, 6:00 pm; First Kids, 6:00 pm; Carillonneurs, 7:00 pm
Thursday, 12/9 - Staff Mtg., 10:00 am
Friday, 12/10 - Prayer Mtg., 10:00 am

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REMINDERS

Elders: Andy Fuller, Bob Collis
Sound System: Kaye Wilkerson, Scott Rice, Mike Stoots, Rea Brown
Greeters Ramp Room (8:50-9:00 & 10:00-10:30): Dec. 5 - Robert Broyles, Donna Broyles, Dec. 12 - CP & Carol Lockhart, Dec. 19 - Don & Wendy Andree, Dec. 26 - Nancy Poore
Greeters Narthex (10:00-10:30): Dec. 5 - Jeff Povtak, Pat Povtak, Dec. 12 - Jan Tyree, Teal Bennett, Dec. 19 - Tom & Helen Thompson, Dec. 26 - Ed Bennett, Debbie Bennett
Deacons on Duty: Dec. 5 - Carolyn Fedison, Julie Smith, Dec. 12 - Roseanne Bumpass, Chris Ayers, Dec. 19 - Helen Thompson, Lynn Wimmer, Dec. 26 - Linda Armetta, Pat Guerrant
Acolytes: Dec. 5 - Emma & Kylie Woolard, Dec. 12 - Charlotte Bain, Dec. 19 - TBD, Dec. 26 - Ryan Fuller
Children's Worship:
Dec-5 - Advent 3, The Shepherds Show the Way to Bethlehem; Leader: Deborah Mattern; Greeter: Mike Trail
Dec-12 - Advent 4, The Magi Show the Way to Bethlehem; Leader: Deborah Mattern; Greeters: Chris Ayers, Charlie Bain
Dec-19 -How the Church Tells Time; Leader: Pat Povtak; Greeters: Chris Ayers, Jeff Povtak
12-26 - The Boy Jesus in the Temple, Leader: Julie Smith; Greeter: Mike Trail

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PRAYER FOCUS FOR THE WEEK: - Ask God to reveal to you the condemning nature of your sin. Rom. 3:19; Psalm 51:4; 1 Peter 5:6

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The **FEPC Women’s** (just for fun & fellowship) Lunch Group meets every 2nd Wednesday at 12:30 at Montanos on Franklin Road. Come join us this month, DEC 8. PLEASE RSVP to ensure seating, Linda Armetta, larmetta3@gmail.com or 540-494-8200. Montanos’ Address: 7813 Franklin Road SW, 24014

PCC Food Needs - December - Beef Stew

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Hearing devices are located in the Narthex to assist in listening to today’s service

Pastor: The Rev. Robert D. Smith
Director of Music & Children’s Ministries: Mrs. Patricia K. Trail
Director of Youth & Christian Education: Mr. Pete G. Guillard
Organist: Mr. William Turner
Handbell Director: Dr. Erma Rose