

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 15, 2024

3rd 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.)

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO SHARE OUR LIFE IN CHRIST

Prelude "As Lately We Watched" arr. Anna L. Page
Carillonneurs

Gathering Music "God So Loved the World" Getty
FirstKids

Call to Worship Rev. Don Hardman

Leader: I love you, O Lord, my strength.

People: **The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.**

Leader: He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

All: **I call to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies.**

-Psalm 18:1-3 NIV

*Hymn "Praise Him! Praise Him!" No. 173

*Prayer of Adoration

*Prayer of Confession (unison)

Almighty God, You have raised Your Son Jesus from death to life, and crowned Him Lord of all. We confess that we have failed to bow before Him or acknowledge His rule in our lives. Instead, we have followed the ways of the world and failed to give Him the glory He deserves. Hear our confession, forgive us, and cleanse our hearts to worship You. Establish us as Your faithful people, who move and act in obedience and love, following the example of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen

*Assurance of Pardon

Friends, Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. To all who confess their sins and resolve to lead a new life, he says, "Your sins are forgiven." Thanks be to God!

*Gloria Patri No. 579

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

Lighting of the Advent Candle Ed & Debbie Bennett

Children's Time Wendy Andree

*Hymn of Preparation "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent" No. 193

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

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your 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.

Anthem "People, look East" by Eleanor Farjeon
arr. Malcolm Archer

Offering of Our Gifts and Tithes

Offertory "Joy to the World" arr. Mark Hayes
Grant Johnson, piano

*"The Doxology" No. 731

*Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Lesson: Colossians 1:15-20 page 1165

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon: "Looking for the Real Jesus - Jesus is our God"
Rev. Don Hardman

*Affirmation of Faith "The Apostles' Creed" Page 845

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

*Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" No. 194

Benediction

Postlude "Toccata on Veni, Redemptor gentium" Manz

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

CALENDAR

Today, 12/15 - Sunday School, 9:00 am; Worship, 10:30 am; Session Mtg., 5:00 pm
Monday, 12/16 - Church office closed on Mondays
Tuesday, 12/17 - Sisters in Bible Study (SIBS), 10:00 am; Men’s ZOOM Bible Study, 12:00 pm; Adult Bible Study (ABS), 5:15 pm; Chancel Choir, 6:30 pm
Wednesday, 12/18 - Youth Group & First Kids, 6:00 pm; Carillonners, 7:00 pm
Thursday, 12/19 - Men’s Breakfast, 8:00 pm
Friday, 12/20 - Prayer Mtg., 10:00 am
Reminder that the church office will be closed for Christmas and New Year holiday beginning Dec. 23 and returning Jan. 7.

* * * * *

REMINDERS

Elders: Al Soltis, Bill Gearhart
Sound System: Kaye Wilkerson, Scott Rice, Rea Brown
Greeters Ramp Room (8:50-9:00 & 10:00-10:30): Dec. 15 - Charles Speck; Dec. 22 - Bob & Donna Broyles; Dec. 29 - Don & Wendy Andree
Greeters Narthex (10:00-10:30): Dec. 15 - Barry & Anne Webb; Dec. 22 - Kaye Ward; Dec. 29 - Ed & Debbie Bennett
Deacons on Duty: Dec. 15 - Wendy Andree, Alison Boozer; Dec. 22 - Marcia Ridenhour , Sheila Harms; Dec. 29 - Brenda Edwards, Marlene Flynn

* * * * *

PRAYER FOCUS FOR THE WEEK: - Pray for protection from the evil one. James 4:7; Ephesians 6:10-18

* * * * *

PCC Food Needs - December - Beef Stew

* * * * *

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

Pastor: Rev. Don Hardman
Director of Music: Rev. Keith Olivier
Director of Christian Education: Mr. Pete G. Guillard
Organist: Mr. William Turner
Handbell Director: Dr. Erma Rose

Operating Fund Revenue through 11/30/24	
YTD Budgeted Giving	\$569,507
YTD Actual Giving	\$539,262
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$30,245)

Thank you for your faithful giving.

Please welcome Grant Johnson, a student of Patti Trail, studying at First Academy of Music, as he plays piano today.