

WE GATHER IN CHRIST'S NAME

GATHERING MUSIC *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Clay Christiansen

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CENTERING SILENCE The Rev. Dr. James Butler

* ADVENT INTROIT

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the son of God appears.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

* OPENING RESPONSES (Psalm 8)

O Lord, our God, your name is exalted in all the earth.

**When we consider your heavens, O Lord, the work of your fingers—the moon
and the stars you have set in their courses.**

Who are we, O God, that we should notice them?

O Lord, our God, your name is exalted in all the earth.

* HYMN 82

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

* ACCLAMATION AND PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Beloved in Christ: God is with us!

We are not alone!

CALL TO CONFESSION AND SILENT REFLECTION

UNISON CONFESSION

God of wonder, we are surrounded by signs of your glory and presence, but we often miss the marvels and close our ears to your voice. When we turn our hearts to lesser ‘gods’ with empty promises, forgive us and set us free. When we seek our will and way, more than yours, forgive us and save us from ourselves. Open our hearts to the gracious word of freedom and responsibility spoken and demonstrated by Jesus, in whose name we make this confession. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 447)

*We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.*

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 33:14-16

(Pew Bible, O.T. p.738)

ANTHEM

Advent Candlelight Carol

Arr. Anna Laura Page
Jean Anne Shafferman

Cynthia Holzheimer, piano; Abraham Roos, percussion

Advent candle burning bright through the night, shine your light of (v.1) hope (v.2) peace. Telling people everywhere. Soon the Savior comes, soon God will be here! People gather and prepare in the night with light of (v.1) hope (v.2) peace. Advent candle burning bright with love. People everywhere go tell: God comes in love! Come and prepare in the light of love! Advent candle burning bright through the night. Shine your light of joy. Telling people everywhere: go tell! The Savior comes! Come and prepare with the light of joy!

* GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 21:25-36

(Pew Bible, N.T. p.85)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AROUND THE ADVENT WREATH

SUNG BLESSING

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray.

Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell.

O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

SERMON

“How Did You Miss the Sign?”

Dr. Butler

“When you see these things...you will know the Kingdom is near...”

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

* HYMN 105

“People, Look East”

BESANÇON

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen* Johannes Brahms
(Behold, a Rose Breaks Into Bloom)

* **DOXOLOGY** (Hymn 606)

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (see insert)

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* **HYMN 93** "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" TRURO

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **DEPARTING MUSIC** *People, Look East* Jerry Westenkuehler
The people are welcome to depart or remain seated while the Departing Music is played.

Our Mission

To extend the gracious welcome of God in Jesus Christ through worship, service and spiritual growth in a supportive community of faith.

Staff

The Rev. Dr. James Butler, Pastor
The Revs. Dr. Steve and Dr. Cinda Gorman, Parish Associates
Dr. Kaori Hongo, Minister of Music
Aliyah Kennedy, Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry
Sara Gresh, Secretary and Financial Secretary
Kimberly Hook, Childcare Provider and Evening Receptionist
Carolyn Fordosi, Housekeeper; Scott Schreibman, Maintenance Custodian



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

10 a.m.
