

Order of Worship for the Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2021, 8:30 am

You are invited to speak the words in *bold*. + Please stand as you are able.

Musicians

Chris Garofalo Piano • Marty Matutis, Cantor

Prelude

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

arranged by Marshall McDonald & Steven Sharp Nelson

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Welcome

with Pastor Hannah

+ Call to Worship

with Pastor Hannah

If life was a home, then we would pray—

may love be the foundation.

May God be the cornerstone.

May the Spirit be the windows—ushering light in.

***And may hope be the walls—holding us
together.***

In this hour of worship, let us work toward building that
home together.

***We may not know the path ahead, but God is
here, even now.***

Let us give thanks for a foundation of love.

Let us worship Holy God.

+ Opening Hymn

Blessed Be the God of Israel

United Methodist Hymnal #209

verses 1, 2 & 3

Verse 1

Blessed be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free,
who visits and redeems us, and grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release;
God shall fulfill the promise to bring our people peace.

Verse 2

Now from the house of David a child of grace is given;
a Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven.
Before him goes the herald, forerunner in the way,
the prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.

Verse 3

On prisoners of darkness the sun begins to rise,
the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes,
to guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace;
O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!

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Call to Confession

with Pastor Jeremiah

Prayer of Confession

Holy God,

When John was born, Zechariah leaned down and whispered words of love into his ear. We know that you do the same for us, day in and day out, yet we fail to hear it. We forget that in the beginning we were made good. We doubt that we could possibly be enough. We hustle for our self-worth and wear ourselves out aiming for perfection. We deflect words of praise. We hide behind shiny first impressions. Forgive us. Trusting our worth is the hardest job. Open our ears as you open our hearts, so that we might rest on the foundation of goodness you have laid for us. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

with Pastor Jeremiah

Candle Lighting

The Cann family

A: As we reflect on the foundation of our faith in our lives, we gather together around the candle of peace.

B: The home we long for is a home that knows peace—

A: peace that rests between us and our grief,

B: peace around our anxiety,

A: peace between us and our self-criticism,

B: peace amidst our relationships,

A: peace at the core of our being,

B: peace hovering through and in our world.

A: The home we long for is a home that knows peace.

B: So today we light the candle of peace—as a reminder and as a prayer.

A: Let it be so. Amen.

Song

Where Children Belong

The Faith We Sing #2233

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This, this is where children belong,
welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.

Water, God's Word,
bread and cup, prayer, and song:
this is where children belong.

Time for Young Disciples

with Beth Hagemeyer

Scripture

with Mary Catherine Long

Luke 1:57-80

⁵⁷ Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. ⁵⁸ Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

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⁵⁹ On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. ⁶⁰ But his mother said, "No; he is to be called John." ⁶¹ They said to her, "None of your relatives has this name." ⁶² Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. ⁶³ He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And all of them were amazed. ⁶⁴ Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. ⁶⁵ Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. ⁶⁶ All who heard them pondered them and said, "What then will this child become?" For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

⁶⁷ Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy:

⁶⁸ "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. ⁶⁹ He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, ⁷⁰ as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, ⁷¹ that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

⁷² Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, ⁷³ the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us ⁷⁴ that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

⁷⁶ And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, ⁷⁷ to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. ⁷⁸ By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, ⁷⁹ to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

⁸⁰ The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

Song of Preparation

Like a Child

The Faith We Sing #2092

Verse 1

Like a child love would send
to reveal and to mend,

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like a child and a friend,
Jesus comes.

Like a child we may find
claiming heart, soul, and mind,
like a child strong and kind,
Jesus comes.

Verse 2

Like a child we will meet,
ragged clothes, dirty feet,
like a child on the street,
Jesus comes.

Like a child we once knew
coming back into view,
like a child born anew,
Jesus comes.

Verse 3

Like a child born to pray
and to show us the way,
like a child here to stay,
Jesus comes.

Like a child we receive
all that love can conceive,
like a child we believe,
Jesus comes.

Sermon

Laying the Foundation
with Pastor Hannah

Hymn of Response

Shalom to You

United Methodist Hymnal #666

Verse 1 [x2]

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

Holy Communion

with Pastor Hannah and Pastor Jeremiah

Communion Music

Ave Maria

by Michal Lorenc
arranged by Chris Garofalo

Lord's Prayer

with Pastor Hannah

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy
name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on

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earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

Announcements
with Pastor Hannah

Offering Invitation
with Pastor Jeremiah

Offertory
As the Deer
by Martin Nystrom
arranged by Douglas E. Wagner

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+ Doxology
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
United Methodist Hymnal #94

Adaptation ©1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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+ Hymn of Sending Forth

People, Look East

United Methodist Hymnal #202, verses 1 & 4

Verse 1

People, look east.

The time is near

of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able,

trim the hearth and set the table.

People, look east and sing today:

Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Verse 4

Angels announce with shouts of mirth
him who brings new life to earth.

Set every peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.

People, look east and sing today:

Love, the Lord, is on the way.

+ Benediction

with Pastor Hannah

Postlude

Voluntary in C

by Henry Heron

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