

A Service For The Worship Of God

December 17, 2017
3rd Sunday of Advent

We give thanks that God has called us to worship together.



Processional Hymn #25

Away In A Manger

A Word of Welcome and Announcements

Advent Devotional

Voice 1: Mary praised our mighty God who entrusted her with a sacred role.
Great things God has done!

Voice 2: The world will never be the same again.

Voice 1: The powerful will be toppled from their thrones. The hungry will be lifted up and fed good things.

Voice 2: Every time a child is born, the world changes for someone. Our lives also changed when a surprised young woman carried the One who became our Savior. On this third Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of joy.

(The candle of Joy is lit)

Let us pray together:

**Living God, fill us with Mary's trust and readiness to accept your purpose.
May we rejoice with joy as we say: Come, Lord Jesus. Amen**

Hymn #23

Angels We Have Heard On High

Call To Confession

Leader: Friends, the temptation of sin surrounds every moment of every day. We engage in that temptation more often than we can admit to ourselves, let alone God. In an effort to move through these temptations, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Holy God, we confess that we have neglected to declare Jesus the king and model for our lives. We have been quick to call on others to follow the ways of Christ yet slow to do the same. We have been bold in demanding generosity, mercy, and forgiveness yet quiet when it comes to offering inclusion, love, and compassion. Forgive us, O God. Restore in us, yet again, the commitment to be more Christ like in word, in deed, and in spirit. Amen.

(Silent Confession) — In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Assurance Of Pardon

Leader: All things, in heaven and on earth, are reconciled to God in Jesus Christ. Forgiveness is ours through faith in the Lord, in whom God was pleased to dwell. Know that we are forgiven and be at peace.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God

Gloria Patri: *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Passing The Peace Of Christ

Leader: *As a forgiven people, let us share the peace of Christ
The Peace Of Christ Be With You.*

People: And Also With You.

Leader: *Let us turn and greet one another*

Children's Choir

Ordination and Installation of Elders

Hymn #525

Here I Am Lord

Prayers Of The People and Lord's Prayer

(You are invited to share out loud your prayer concerns and joys)

Leader: Lord in you mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer (in unison)

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.

Prayer Response

Hymn #325 Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers

Spirit divine, attend our prayers,
And make this house your home;
Descend with all your gracious powers;
O come, great Spirit, come!

Offering (let us present our Offerings, Tithes and Gifts to the Lord)

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Anthem

Is Jesus the One?

Scripture

John 6-8, 19-28 (NRSV)

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

He said,

"I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,
'Make straight the way of the Lord,'"
as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Message

Rev. Jack Cormack

Hymn: We Have A Savior

Hillsong

Verse 1

A child has been given
King of our freedom
Sing for the Light has come
This is Christmas

Chorus

This is Jesus Emmanuel
Here with us tell all the world
We have a Savior
We have a Savior

Verse 2

Come and adore Him
And bring gifts before Him
Joy to the world
Worship the Son
This is Christmas

We are no longer lost

Cause He has come down for us
We have a Savior
We have a Savior

Verse 3

Sing with the angels
And lift up your voices
Join in the song of hope
This is Christmas

This is Jesus Emmanuel
Here with us tell all the world
We have a Savior
We have a Savior
We are no longer lost
Cause He has come down for us
We have a Savior
We have a Savior
We have a Savior
His love will reign forever
His love will reign forever
His love will reign forev - er

His love will reign forever
His love will reign forever
His love will reign forev - er
This is Jesus Emmanuel
Here with us tell all the world
We have a Savior
We have a Savior
We are no longer lost
Cause He has come down for us
We have a Savior
We have a Savior

***Charge and Benediction**

***Response**

While We Are Waiting, Come

*While we are waiting come, while we are waiting come
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.
With power and glory come; with power and glory come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.
Come, Savior quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.*

*=Those for whom it is comfortable are invited to stand

Rev. Jack Cormack
Jennifer McCullough
Jo Lynne Palmerton

Pastor
Director of Music
Pianist

Today's Advent Readers: Steve Shrum and Janet Walkinshaw