

Service for the Lord's Day

First Sunday in Advent

November 29, 2015

Enter as God's people, watching for signs of the coming Kingdom.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

Because of you Creator, we come to know the way to Bethlehem, where justice is born to a shunned family, and your love is born into poverty. These are the signs of Advent all around us. Amen.

Gathering

PRELUDE

“Meditation”

Miller

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (with “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”) arr. Campfield

WELCOME

Carol Scoggins

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Christian Education Team

Now let us pray together:
God of Abraham and Sarah and all the Patriarchs of old, you are our Father too. Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, Child of God, and Son of David. Help us to prepare for his birth, and make our hearts ready and our hope blossom in you. Help us today and every day to worship you, to hear your Word, and to do your will by sharing your hope with others in our wonderful world. We ask it in the name of the Bethlehem Child. Amen.

*INTROIT #82

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Wesley, 1744

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Because of you, Righteous God, we begin our journey to Bethlehem,
trusting that you will lead us down the paths of faithfulness.

For you, Child Jesus, we wait,
we wait on this day of anticipation and hope, and also in days of doubt and worry.

With you, Spirit of Advent, we serve those for whom this season is one of joy;
and we serve those who ache because their lives are empty of family and friends.

Lead us in your ways, O Lord.
Help us to follow you in trust through this season of expectation.

*HYMN #88

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (v. 1-4)

Helmore, 1852

CALL TO CONFESSION

We know the signs of our faithlessness – the hurtful words we speak, the pain we gift to others, the mistakes we make over and over and over. But God is our righteousness, waiting to forgive

us, if we will but pray. So we will confess our sins, both our individual sins and our corporate sins, first silently, then together using the words in the bulletin.

SILENT PRAYER

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The chances we have to be more compassionate; the moments to offer hope to a lonely friend; the good fortune we could give to those who have so little. The signs are all around us, Holy Emmanuel, of how we fail to live as your people. Do not meditate on our bungling ways, O God, but remember the mercy of your heart. That mercy which forgives us; that mercy which makes us whole; and especially, that living mercy who came down one night so long ago, Jesus the Advent of our redemption. Amen.

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

“Lord, have mercy upon us,
Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us.”

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Raise your heads, children of God! In the bleak mid-winter of our lives, our redemption draws near. In the springtime of our doubts, the kingdom of God approaches.
Even when we feel most alone, the One who comes to us is the living salvation promised so long ago. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

*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.

#580

Proclaiming

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 33: 14-16

Bibles, p.694 /LG. p.903

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

HYMN #358

“Steal Away”

African American Spiritual, 1831

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Luke 21:25-36

Bibles, p.80/ LG. p.104

The Word of God, for the People of God

Thanks be to God

SERMON

“Wait! What? Where? Watch!”

Rev. Candice L. Klein

Responding

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

“We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from True God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.” This, we believe, Amen. – Nicene Creed (1.2)

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MINISTRY OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *“Simple Gifts”* arr. Hebble

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Sending

*HYMN #81 *“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken” (v.1-2)* Newton, 1775

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE #81 *“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken” (v.3)*

POSTLUDE *“Trumpet Tune”* Broughton

(*) Those who are able may stand.
Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses.

This week’s prayers and concerns: Kelly Weaver and family, Jane & Tolly Dill, Diane Dill, Cindy Ratliff, Debbie Murphy, Jack Clark and family, Syble De Loach, the Building Commissioners

CALENDAR OF EVENTS		
Wed. 12/02	Chancel Choir Meeting	6:00pm
Sun. 12/06	2 nd Sunday in Advent	
Sun. 12/06	Congregational Meeting	following worship
Mon. 12/07	Presbyterian Women’s Christmas Luncheon	
Thur. 12/10	Presbytery Meeting	Ft. Worth

Pastor: Rev. Candice L. Klein 903-392-8443 fpchendersonrev@aol.com
Church Secretary: Lisa Temple Director of Music: Mark Reeves, CAGO
Custodian: Bob Schauwecker Nursery Attendant: Martha Baughman