

Our Mission

“to serve God and share the good news of Jesus Christ”

First Sunday of Advent – Traditional Worship 9:00 a.m.

November 28, 2021

Prelude

Prelude on Kremser” (Gregg Sewell)

Cathy Namock, organist

GATHERING

Invocation

P: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God for whom we wait,

C: in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.

P: God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, † your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Hymn #525

“You Are Holy” (twice through with Sanctuary Band)

You are holy, you are whole
You are always ever more
Than we ever understand
You are always at hand

Blessed are you coming near
Blessed are you coming here
To your church in wine and bread
Raised from soil, raised from dead

You are holy
You are wholeness
You are present
Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!

Sing hosanna in the highest!
Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to our God!

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray:

C: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candle – Week One

Carole and Jim Rebholz

Song “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” verse one Hymn #257

O Come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Litany

R1: At every beginning there is a yearning for the one who is coming. O Emmanuel,

C: Wake us up to your coming.

R2: We gather together to expect the unexpected and imagine the unimaginable. O Emmanuel,

C: Wake us up to your coming.

R1: We wait for the day when God will recycle tanks into tractors and transform minefields into soccer fields. O Emmanuel,

C: Wake us up to your coming.

R2: We stay awake by telling stories that offer a glimmer of a future and agitate dormant hope within us. O Emmanuel,

C: Wake us up to your coming.

R1: Jesus, we welcome your presence now with the lighting of this candle, whose flame brings warmth to winter and fills this place with the glow of hope.

C: Amen.

Light the first candle.

Song “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” verse three Hymn #257

O Come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times you gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Children's Message

WORD

First Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

In the Old Testament, “righteousness” often has to do with being faithful in relationship. God acts righteously both in punishing Israel for its sin and in having mercy. In today’s reading, Jerusalem’s future name—“The Lord is our righteousness”—proclaims that God is even now working salvation for Israel.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Upon Timothy’s report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

Special Music

"You Are My Hiding Place"

Sanctuary Band

Gospel Reading

Luke 21:25-36

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Pastor Tricia Lowe

“Signs and Wonders”

Hymn of the Day

Hymn #266

“All Earth is Hopeful” (vs. 1, 2 & 3)

All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last!
Furrows lie open for God's creative task
This, the labor of people who struggle to see
How God's truth and justice set ev'rybody free

People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell
"A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel"
She conceived him, "God with us,"
Our brother, whose birth
Restores hope and courage to children of this earth

Mountains and valleys will have to be prepared
New highways opened, new protocols declared
Almost here! God is nearing, in beauty and grace!
All clear ev'ry gateway, in haste, come out in haste!

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

L: In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence. *A brief silence.*

L: God of presence and peace, strengthen your church around the globe to proclaim the message of your love coming to the world. Open our hearts to recognize your face in all people and in all of creation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: God of mighty redwoods and microscopic plants, fields and city parks, the wind and the waves, be a healing balm to our wounded planet. May we nurture what you have lovingly created. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: God of equity and compassion, bring righteousness and goodness to all peoples of the earth. Give a heart of discernment and integrity to leaders in our communities. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: God of comfort and care, be present with those who watch and wait. Come to all who await births, deaths, divorces, new unions, new jobs, retirements, healing, and life transitions of every kind. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: God of promises kept and new dreams awakened, shelter your people from destructive storms. We pray for those whose lives have been upended by natural disasters, for the work of Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief, and other relief organizations. Be with the sick, the lonely and the bereaved, especially those affected by the global pandemic, that they may feel your healing grace and peace. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Please take this time to offer any other intercessions, either aloud or in your heart.

L: God of companionship and community, we give you thanks for the saints who journeyed with us and now abide in you. Even in distress and uncertainty, make us confident that your promises endure forever. Hear us, God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen.

Offering

P: We give thanks for the offerings that we have received in the mail, online and in person this past week. These gifts make it possible for us to continue to be the church in the world. If you are worshiping with us today online and would like to make a donation, please go to our website homepage and click the online giving link.

Offering Prayer

P: God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.

C: Amen.

MEAL

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also, with you

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

C: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

P: Gathered together as one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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 and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

P: Come to Christ's banquet. Feast on God's gift of grace.

Communion Blessing

Communion Hymn

Hymn #466

"In the Singing" (vs. 1 & 2)

In the singing, in the silence
In the hands expectant, open
In the blessing, in the breaking
In your presence at this table

Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ
Be the wine of grace
Jesus, Christ, Jesus Christ
Be the bread of peace

In the question, in the answer
In the moment of acceptance
In the heart's cry, in the healing
In the circle of your people

Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ
Be the wine of grace
Jesus, Christ, Jesus Christ
Be the bread of peace

Prayer after Communion

P: Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

C: Amen.

SENDING

Announcements

Blessing

P: The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn *"Rejoice, Rejoice Believers"* (vs. 1 & 2) Hymn #244

Rejoice, rejoice, believers
And let your lights appear
The evening is advancing
And darker night is near

The bridegroom is arising
And soon is drawing nigh
Up, pray and watch and wrestle
At midnight comes the cry

The watchers on the mountain
Proclaim the bridegroom near
Go forth as He approaches
With alleluias clear

The marriage feast is waiting
The gates wide open stand
Arise, O heirs of glory
The bridegroom is at hand

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ is near.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude



As a congregation, we pray for God's guidance on our journey of service to our membership, our community and our world. Pray for Pastor Tricia, the Church Council, and the Ministry Leadership. The church office reviews this list monthly. Please call if your prayer concern is removed earlier than you wish. Please keep the following in your prayers during this week:

Members

Bonnie Kain

Bobbe Serena-Wayman

Cris Spahr

Chuck Lynch

Compton Reeves

Deanna McDaniel

Helen Morton

Isabel Benell

Kathy Austin

Kevin Miller

Len Meyers

Mary Jensen

Ramona Walker

Rhonda Medina

Stan Walters

Sue Smith

Wendy Woolley

Our Family Members in Military and Deployed

Meg Northrup

Family Members and Friends

Asher Stuart – great grandson of Nancy Renner

Bill Deffenbaugh – stepfather of Kimberly Goats

Bill Trancik – fiancé of Sheila Smilgis

Bob Renner – husband of Nancy Renner

Buel McCoy – father of Wendy Woolley

Charles Dean – great nephew of Gail Kenny

Connie – friend of Helen Morton

Connie Miller & son Trevor – friends of Carl Schulze

Connie & Jerry Oium – friends of Jackie Poling

Cris & Susie – brother & sister of Clara Farmer

Dawn Byars – stepsister of Kimberly Goats

Doug Bayle – nephew of Phyllis Pohlman

Edie Hales – mother of Cheryl Miller

Edward Kelly – friend of Mark & Mary Austin

Ern Woolley – father of Scott Woolley

Grayson – grandson of Mary Wakimoto

Jack Gregory – friend of Ellen Rosfeld

John Wade – husband of Carol Wade

Kay, Dave & their families – friends of Bert & Kathy Austin

Franklin Camero – uncle of Wendy Woolley

Linda Vallner – sister of Ron Kovara

Lyle Gilson – son of Carol Hotten

Marie – Clara Farmer's son's mother-in-law

Mark Erickson – friend of Mark & Mary Austin

Marilyn Boston – cousin of Sue & Tom Smith

Merle MacCleary – father of Pam MacCleary

Miranda & Brad Rebholz – granddaughter and grandson of Jim & Carole Rebholz

Phil Miller – friend of Emmanuel

Rev. Paul Meier – former pastor of Larry & Sonya Mahler

Rich, Carol, daughter of Rachel & Granddaughter of Audrey, friend of Larry & Sonya Mahler

Roger Hersey – father of Leigh Quinn

Rosemary – neighbor of Mary Wakimoto

Rudy & Lena Juarez – friends of Julie Chisholm

Ryan Blair – great grandson of Carol Hotten

Sam Crifasi – friend of Larry Mahler

Sarah Mulligan – daughter of Carol Wade

Stacy – daughter-in-law of Kathy Austin

Star Campbell – friend of Bob Saul

Wayne Stithem – friend of Emmanuel

Wayne Wallingford – brother of Sheila Smilgis

Someone is in the church office Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. except Wednesdays, which are 9:00 a.m.– 1:00 p.m. Please check in at the office when you arrive so we know who is in the building. Please call 772-4135 about the building availability, if you want to use a room for bible study, meeting, etc.

MISSION OUTREACH for the month of **November** is Yavapai Gospel Rescue Mission. We exist to reach out to “The Least, The Last and The Lost” with the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ. To care for the homeless, poor and at-risk families and individuals by working to meet their physical, spiritual and social needs. A variety of programs and services offer assistance to homeless and/or poor individuals and at-risk families by helping them to move from dangerous or undesirable places in their lives to safer and more stable situations.

Food Bank collection continues for the Prescott Valley Food Bank at 8781 Spouse for pickup on the first Sunday of the month. Items most needed are cereal, canned soup (especially hearty soups), canned chili and canned vegetables (other than green beans and corn). Cash donations are always appreciated. **Make sure to get a bag on your way out!**

Our next Interfaith Meal is on December 10 at 11:00 am. We are holding only one meal in December due to Christmas Eve falling on our second meal date. We are serving 130 - 150 takeout meals. If you are able to help, please let the office know.

Devotionals for the next quarter are available on the table in the narthex.

Christmas Adopt-a-Family Angel Tree – New angels are now available on the Christmas Trees in the Narthex: Emmanuel has adopted three families from Mountain View Elementary School. The trees will contain a toy item and two clothing items for each child, a clothing item for each parent, and a family gift. In addition, our quilters will provide a quilt for each family, and \$250 from Thrivent Financial will be used to purchase Christmas dinner for each of the families. **Gifts are due back by Monday, December 20.** Thank you for sharing the love of Jesus as we provide joy to these needy families in our area.

Wednesday 10:00 am Lectionary Bible Study continues with facilitators Larry Gordon and Hal Vogelaar.

Thrivent Member Action Cards – Each member is allocated two \$250.00 cards per year. If you haven’t used yours, please consider applying for a card to support the Interfaith Meal or any other of our Ministries.

Due to the sharp increase of Covid-19 cases in our area, (21.3% positivity rate with almost 4 deaths per day) the church council—at the recommendation of the Church in a Changing World Task Force—has stepped our pandemic reopening back to Stage 4, which includes masking and other safety precautions in the church building for all activities.

Shares of Faith, financial gifts, are a wonderful means of honoring, celebrating and memorializing your loved ones. They are given for life events as well as deaths. Your Shares of Faith will be acknowledged in our weekly service folder.

Special Youth Event - “Over the Hedge” **has been postponed until after the first of the year.**

Special Congregational Survey – Keep an eye on your home mailbox this week (if it hasn’t yet arrived) for a survey from the Church in a Changing World Task Force. The hope is to learn more about our congregation’s thoughts on how to better serve members and our community. Please prayerfully complete the survey and return

it to the church by **Sunday, December 5**. There will be a return envelope included and you can put the completed survey in either the mail, offering plate or secure mailbox by the front door of the church.

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