

Welcome and Announcement

Opening Song
"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"
See next page for lyrics

Opening Prayer

Join us is in singing when asked

Upon this moment, upon this people, upon this place, the holy comes.
And sacred knowing brings sacred being for sacred doing of God's plan.

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

All: We light the candle of Love
We pray for Love this day.
We open to see the Sacred reflected in all things.
We open to see each person
as a gift of Your holy presence,
The gift of the Christ Mystery,
lighting the way to love.

Join us is in singing as the candle is being lit.

Upon this moment, upon this people, upon this place, the holy comes.
And sacred knowing brings sacred being for sacred doing of God's plan.

First Reading
Romans 15:4-13
See next page for reading

Join us in sing:
"People Look East"
See next page for lyrics

Scripture Reading
Matthew 3:1-12
See next page for reading

Join us in singing:
"Soon and Very Soon"
See next page for lyrics

Sermon
"Sacred People"
Rev. Dr. Nancy Wilson

Song of Reflection

Prayers of the People
(Join us in signing when instructed)

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Your name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us, Your name is called Emmanuel.

Lord's Prayer

(Join us in signing when instructed)
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Your name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us, Your name is called Emmanuel.

Offering /Offertory

Doxology

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow;
Praise God, All Creatures Here Below;
Praise God All Heavens And The Earth Reflecting The Sacred Story.

This, This Is Christ The One, Who Mirrors Hope For All Of Us.
Haste, Haste Your Praise To Bring, The Word Of Time Eternal.

Communion and Anointing

The Great Thanksgiving
The Holy One be with you
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to our God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Join us in singing

Praise God, Praise God of pow'r and might, Praise God whose presence shines through our
night. Praise God of glory, hosannas sing, reflecting the sacred story.
This, this is Christ the One who mirrors hope for all of us.
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Word of time eternal.

Words of Institution

Celebrant: And so, in remembrance of Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

COMMUNION SONG (during petitions to the manger)

This, this is Christ the One
who mirrors love for all of us.
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
the Word of time eternal.

Closing Song
"Good Christian Friends Rejoice"
See next page for lyrics

Benediction

Lyrics

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, And Ransom Captive Israel
That Mourns In Lonely Exile Here, Until The Child Of God Appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall Come To You, O Israel!

O Come, O Come, O Adonai, Who Came To All On Sinai High,
And From Its Peak A Single Law Proclaimed In Majesty and Awe.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall Come To You, O Israel!

“People Look East”

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.

Angels Announce With Shouts Of Mirth
The Babe Who Brings New Life To Earth.
Set Every Peak And Valley Humming
With The Word, Our God Is Coming.
People Look East And Sing Today:
Love, Our God, Is On The Way.

“Soon And Very Soon”

Soon And Very Soon We Will Come To Meet Our God
Soon And Very Soon We Will Come To Meet Our God
Soon And Very Soon We Will Come To Meet Our God
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, We're Coming To Meet Our God
(Repeat)

“Good Christian Friends Rejoin”

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice, With Heart And Soul And Voice;
Now You Know Of Endless Bliss: Jesus Christ Was Born For This!
God Has Opened Heaven's Door, And You Are Blessed Forevermore.
Christ Was Born For This, Christ Was Born For This!

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice With Heart And Soul And Voice;
Now You Need Not Fear The Grave: Jesus Christ Was Born To Save!
Calls You One And Calls You All To Gain The Everlasting Hall.
Christ Was Born To Save, Christ Was Born To Save!

First Reading

Romans 15:4-13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God of our Sovereign Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the chosen people on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors and that the Gentiles might glorify God for showing mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise you among the nations and sing praises to Your Name”; and again it says,

“Rejoice, O you nations, with God's people”; and again,
“Praise our God, all you nations, and let all the peoples praise the Most High”; and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come, the One who rises to rule over the nations; and they will place their trust in the Coming One.”

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Second Reading

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days, John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Change your hearts for the reign of God is about to break in upon you.” It was John of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of our God; make straight the paths of God.’ ”

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by John in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, give evidence that you mean to reform, and do not pride yourselves saying, ‘We have Abraham and Sarah as our ancestor’. For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham and Sarah.

Even now the ax is laid to the root of the tree; every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water if you have a change of heart, but the One who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry the sandals of the Coming One. That One will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire, whose winnowing fan will clear the threshing floor and will gather wheat into the barn, but the chaff will be burned with unquenchable fire.”

Lector: The Gospel of Jesus Christ!

RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.