



*A joyful church, guided by God, loving our neighbors.*

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1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent/Virtual Service  
Sunday, 29 November 2020

THE GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

arr. Parker/Shaw

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. K. Nicholas Yoda

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Wes and Robert Hargrave

OPENING HYMN #82

*Come, Thou Long - Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

CALL TO CONFESSION: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not within us. In confession we acknowledge our brokenness and our need for God who is faithful, just, loving and forgiving. In humility and in faith let us confess our condition to God by praying together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: **Almighty God, "we have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away." We fail to call on Your name; we don't stir to take hold of Your plan for us. Yet You are our God. "We are the clay, and thou art the potter." May all we do be the work of Your hand.**

*(Time of Silent Personal Confession)*

THE KYRIE: **Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: Hear the words of Paul when he writes: "God is faithful, by whom you were called into fellowship of God's Son, Jesus Christ." By God's grace you will be sustained to the end, and through Christ's mercy you will be found guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. To God be all praise and glory. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI #581: **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.**

**Psalm 80: 1-7**

1 Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,  
 you who lead Joseph like a flock!  
 You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth  
 2 before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.  
 Stir up your might,  
 and come to save us!  
 3 Restore us, O God;  
 let your face shine, that we may be saved.  
 4 O Lord God of hosts,  
 how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?  
 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears,  
 and given them tears to drink in full measure.  
 6 You make us the scorn[a] of our neighbors;  
 our enemies laugh among themselves.  
 7 Restore us, O God of hosts;  
 let your face shine, that we may be saved

**Psalm 80: 17-19**

17 But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,  
 the one whom you made strong for yourself.  
 18 Then we will never turn back from you;  
 give us life, and we will call on your name.  
 19 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;  
 let your face shine, that we may be saved.

*Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. Thanks be to God.*

ANTHEM

*People, Look East*

Eleanor Farjeon, arr. Merrill

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.

Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there:  
 Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.  
 People, look east and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, Guard the nest that must be filled.  
 Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen.  
 People, look east and sing today: Love, the Bird, is on the way.

Stars keep the watch. When night is dim One more light the bowl shall brim,  
 Shining beyond the frosty weather, Bright as sun and moon together.  
 People, look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.

Angels announce with shouts of mirth Christ 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.

VIDEO

*The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey*

SERMON

*Nobody Knows but Jesus...*

Dr. K. Nicholas Yoda

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed (Ecumenical)

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 power of 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, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again 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.

CLOSING HYMN #84

*Creator of the Stars of Night*

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light, O Christ, redeemer of us all, we pray you, hear us when we call.  
When this old world drew on toward night, you came, but not in splendor bright, not as a monarch,  
but the child of Mary, blameless mother mild.  
At your great name, O Jesus, now all knees must bend, all hearts must bow: all things on earth with one accord,  
like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.  
To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One, praise, honor, might,  
and glory be from age to age eternally. Amen.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

New Prayer Concerns:

- **DeMaria Family and friends**, passing of Orpha DeMaria
- **Vera Lambert**, Health concerns, hospitalized
- **All Families who have suffered a loss**

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

- **Denise Bien**, Health concerns
- **Bogart Family**, passing of Ray Bogart, husband of Mary Jane
- **Marian Fenker**, Health concerns
- **Dorothy Fisher**, Health concerns
- **Estelle Goode**, mother in law of Rev. Amy Snow
- **Sue Imm**, Health concerns

- **Allison McGrath**, Cancer treatment
- **Glenn Montague**, Health concerns
- **Tom Wise**, Health concerns

Serving in the Armed Forces:

- **Zachary Huffman**, Friend of Barb Imm
- **Brian Montague**, grandson of Glenn Montague

Mission Coworkers:

- **McGill Family**, back in the United States

**\*\*Please notify the church office of any prayer requests you may have including those of you who have loved ones in the Armed Forces or in Mission.**

BLESSED BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

**Month of December:** 2 Nancy Schmidt, 3 Robert Porter, 6 Alexander McNeill, 8 Jean Graham, 9 Connie Beckett, 13 Sally Budig, 15 Bruce Anderson, 17 Sheila Potter, 29 Miles Suer, 30 Sarah Downs, 31 Stephanie Suer.

