

Service of Worship

Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2019 10:15 AM

*Please rise as able

-- Ready for the Word --

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude arranged by Barnett

“Pastoral Symphony”
from Handel’s Messiah

Choral Beginning by Page

“Rejoice and Sing”

Rejoice and sing, you children of God;

He comes to us, Alleluia! He comes to us, our Savior and King!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Rejoice! He comes to us!

Rejoice and sing! Allelu! Rejoice and sing!

The Light of God Enters

Advent Candle Lighting – *The Stamm Family*

Reader 1: This Advent season, we remember the adventures of Joseph, Zechariah, Simeon, and Mary, passed down from long ago in Holy Scripture. These narratives are signs that God shall always care for us. May they remind us of God’s love for God’s people.

Reader 2: This morning we light the gray candle for Zechariah. When Zechariah heard what God wanted, he had questions and doubts. Sometimes, we doubt as well. The older we get, the more we think we have life figured out. We forget that the impossible is possible with God.

Light the first and second candle

Reader 3: We light this candle in faith as we remember that God is with us even in the midst of our doubts, fear, and questions.

Place the second Nativity Figure

People: God, may you help us to use our voices, along with our time, energy, and talents, to act in faith while declaring your good news. We know that even when we are silent, you are faithful. Therefore, let your voice be heard all the more as we participate in the renewing of your kingdom by proclaiming your good news with our voices, actions, and prayers.

*Hymn

Hymnal No. 93

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

Prayer of Confession

God of the voiceless, you call us to be witnesses to your grace. Yet, we do not always respond well. Like Sarah, we sometimes laugh. Like Thomas, we sometimes doubt. Like Zechariah, we sometimes question. Forgive us for all the ways we stumble. Help us to open our ears to your calling and fill us with faith enough to respond.

We Offer Our Own Confessions in Silence

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Every day is a day of second chances. Even though we stumble, you give us grace in and through Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Response

Hymnal No. 652

A grateful heart is what I bring, a song of praise, my offering. Among the saints I lift my voice: in you, O God, I will rejoice.

*Passing of the Peace

-- Receiving the Word --

Children’s Sermon

*Hymn

Hymnal No. 88

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Verses 1 - 4

Prayer for Understanding

Old Testament Lesson (OT Page 636)

Isaiah 7:10-16

New Testament Lesson (NT Page 56)

Luke 1:5-25

Sermon

“The Stones Will Cry Out”

Choral Offering

by Martin

“Every Valley”

-- Responding to the Word --

*Apostle’s Creed

Hymnal Pg 35

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,**

and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

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

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer (*debts/debtors*)

Hymnal Pg. 35

Giving of Our Tithes, Offerings, and Selves

Offertory

by Mendelssohn

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

*Offertory Response

Insert

Ordination and Installation

Insert

Deacons: Gregory A. Bitler, Jennifer L. Henning (2nd Term), Lynn
A. Fait, Allisa J. Moore, Scott N. Romberger

Elders: Merry B. Hackenberg, James D. Kishbaugh II, Carl L.
Reams, Wm. Michael Tinstman

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn

Hymnal No. 143

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

*Blessing

*Choral Benediction – *sung with the Congregation*

Hymnal No. 88

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Verse 7

**O come, Desire of nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*The Light of God Goes with Us into the World

*Postlude

by Haffner

"O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide"

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O Come, O Come, Emmanuel: Latin prose, pre-9th cent.; translation composite

Participants in today's service: John Clement (worship leader), Henry Cotner (acolyte), Senior Choir (choral beginning, offering and benediction), Rob Cooney (children's sermon), Gary Christian, Vivian Wertz and Mitch Welliver (Deacons), Joy Christian (organist), Rev. Jason Clapper (pastor). Next week's sermon: "*For My Eyes Have Seen*".



Annunciation of the Angel to Zechariah

by Domenico Ghirlandaio (1490, fresco in the Tornabuoni Chapel, Florence)
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Ordination and Installation of Elders and Deacons

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the church universal, and God's Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

Will you be governed by our church's policy, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

Elders: Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

Deacons: Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need? In your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

Questions for the Congregation

Do we, the members of the church, accept these ministers as elders and deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the church?