

Good Morning and Welcome!

We are a community of faith committed to discipleship in all places and times. We hope that you feel at home as you worship God with us. Please ask a greeter or anyone sitting near you for assistance.

As a courtesy to others, please turn off your cell phone.

Bold Print indicates congregational participation.

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Prelude                      O Come, O Come Emmanuel                      Plainsong

Call to Worship

*Please stand, all who are able.*

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name.

**Make known God's deeds among the peoples!**

God blesses us with gifts of love:

**with food and clothing, home and family.**

God blesses us with daily work:

**and all we need from day to day.**

God protects us in time of danger:

**and guards us from every evil.**

God calls us into relationship with him:

**and forms us into one holy people, the Church of Jesus Christ in this place.**

Therefore shall we offer thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

**O Lord our God, we will give thanks to you forever.**

**Let us Worship God!**

Hymn of Praise              Come, Ye Thankful People, Come              #551

Confession of Sin

Leader: Invitation

**People: We come to you a broken people. We have overlooked those around us as we try to protect what is**

**“ours”. We have put our selfish desires and concerns in front of the mandate to love one another. We have not given freely to others as you have given freely to us. Hear us, as we pray in silence, for your forgiveness:**

Hear these words of assurance from Psalm 130:

If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness.’

**This is the Good News.**

**All: Thanks be to God**

Response Song      Our God, Our Help in Ages Past              # 210

Lighting of the Advent Candle - HOPE

Prayer: **Heavenly Father, Advent is a time for remembering and reflecting on the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Father, we pray that you will turn our hearts toward you as Christmas approaches. Let us not get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the season this year and miss the chance to celebrate the gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love that you sent to us on that first Christmas.**

**Father God, every word in scripture points to the gift of hope that we have because of Christ Jesus.**

**The Christmas story wasn't the beginning of that message of hope because the Old Testament is full of glimpses of your plan to redeem your people and restore them into a relationship with you. We are able to truly begin to see and understand just how great your love for us is when we read the story of Jesus' birth in scripture.**

**Help us to revere you in hope and sincere gratitude for the gift of your Son. Amen.**

Proclaiming The Word

Hebrew Lesson

Deuteronomy 15:4-11

Gospel Lesson

2 Corinthians 9:6-15