

## THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

*The central miracle asserted by Christians is the Incarnation. They say that God became Man. Every other miracle prepares for this, or exhibits this, or results from this. (C.S. Lewis)*

### God Calls Us to Worship Him

#### Call to Worship:

**Philippians 4.4-5**

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always.

**People: I will say it again: Rejoice!**

Leader: Let your gentleness be evident to all.

**People: The Lord is near!**

Leader: Let's rejoice in the hope of Christ's coming!

**People: Let's worship God!**

#### Greeting:

**Ruth 2.4**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: As we enter this season of Advent,

May the love of God the Father,

And the grace of Jesus the Son,

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit

Be and abide with us all.

**People: Amen.**

#### Prayer of Invocation

#### Hymn of Praise:

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
Trinity Hymnal #194**

### God Cleanses Us by His Grace

#### Conviction of the Gospel:

**Ephesians 6.10-13**

**Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.**

#### Confession of Sin

#### Comfort of the Gospel:

**Ephesians 2.1-6**

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus....

### God Consecrates Us by Praise, Pledge, and Prayer

#### Hymn of Thanksgiving:

**Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus  
Trinity Hymnal #196**

#### Reception of New Members:

**Michael & Missy Lunceford**

#### Hymn of Meditation:

**What Child Is This?**

What Child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing.

Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

#### Advent Reading of Hope:

**Luke 1.26-38**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

#### Hymn of Meditation:

**What Child Is This?**

Why lies He in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear, shall pierce Him thro'; the cross be borne for me, for you.

Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own Him.

The King of Kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby.

Joy, joy for Christ is born, the Babe the Son of Mary.

The Babe the Son of Mary.

#### Prayer of Intercession:

**The Lord's Prayer**

#### Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

*\*Children dismissed to Little Church*

### Counsels Us through His Word

#### Scripture Reading:

**Revelation 12.1-17**

#### Sermon:

**The Woman, the Dragon, and the Baby**

### God Commissions Us to Serve Him

#### Profession of Faith:

**1 Timothy 3.16**

Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:

**He was manifested in the flesh,  
Vindicated by the Spirit,  
Seen by angels,  
Proclaimed among the nations,  
Believed on in the world,  
Taken up in glory.**

#### Hymn of Response:

**God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen  
Trinity Hymnal #211**

#### Benediction:

**Numbers 6.24-26**

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.