

**MORNING WORSHIP CELEBRATION**  
***The Lord's Day – Second Sunday of Advent***  
**December 10, 2023**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**Welcome & Announcements: Travis Skillingstad**

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

**Prelude: Amy Reber, piano**

*Carols of Advent*  
*Arranged by Mark Hayes*

**Call to Worship: Psalm 96:10-13**

*Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity." <sup>11</sup> Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; <sup>12</sup> let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy <sup>13</sup> before the LORD, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.*

**The Invocation**

**Hymn of Praise 194 (verses 1,3,4,5)**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*  
O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear.

(Chorus)

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free  
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
From depths of hell thy people save,  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. (chorus)

O come, thou Day-spring from on high  
And cheer us by thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight. (chorus)

O come, thou Key of David, come  
And open wide our heav'nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery. (chorus)

**Confession of Sin: Pastor Mike Palombo**

**Need of Confession: James 1:14-15**

*<sup>14</sup> But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. <sup>15</sup> Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.*

**Personal Confession of Sin**

**Corporate Confession of Sin (Unison)**

**Lord, we have not kept watch for you. We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns. We have not waited to find your will for us. We have not noticed the needs of the people around us. We have not acknowledged the love that has been shown to us. Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness. Help us to wait to know your will. Help us to look out for the needs of others. Help us to work and watch for your coming. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon: 1 John 4:9-10**

*<sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

**Affirmation of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 1, 2**

**Pastor:** What is your only comfort in life and death?

**People:** **That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

**Pastor:** What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

**People:** **Three things: first, how great my sin and misery are; second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery; third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.**

**Song of Praise 203**

***Hark! The Herald Angels Sing***

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th’angelic host proclaim,  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Chorus

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King.”

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold him come,

Offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see;  
Hail th'incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with men to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel. (Chorus)

Hail, the heav'n born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that men no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth. (Chorus)

### **The Lord's Prayer (Unison) / Pastoral Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come: thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

### **Giving of Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory: Harold Parker, trombone**

#### ***What Child is This?***

*Arr. by Stephen DeCesare*

### **Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### ***A Story You Can Trust: Luke 1:1-4***

**Pastor Jeff Birch**

*I Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, <sup>2</sup> just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, <sup>3</sup> it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, <sup>4</sup> that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.*

### **Hymn 500 (vss. 1-2)**

***Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me***  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me  
Let me hide myself in thee;  
Let the water and the blood,  
From thy riven side which flowed,  
Be of sin the double cure,  
Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands  
Can fulfil thy law's demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know,  
Could my tears for ever flow,  
All for sin could not atone;  
Thou must save, and thou alone.

## **Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

### **Hymn 500 (vss. 3-4)**

*Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*  
Nothing in my hand I bring,  
Simply to thy cross I cling;  
Naked, come to thee for dress;  
Helpless, look to thee for grace;  
Foul, I to the Fountain fly;  
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,  
When mine eyelids close in death,  
When I soar to worlds unknown,  
See thee on thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in thee.  
*Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

### **Benediction**

### **Postlude**

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