



Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020
Trinity Presbyterian Church,
Topeka, KS

GATHERING

We gather as the Body of Christ to encounter God in worship

Prelude

Prelude & Voluntary on "Savior of the Nations, Come"
arr. Charles Callahan
Brad Stipcak, Organ

CENTERING WORDS

As a new calendar year approaches, what are your Hopes and Fears for the coming months?

Welcome and Announcements

Brenda Dietrich

Lighting of the Candle of Peace

Brenda Dietrich

Prayer of the Day

Unison

**Emmanuel, let your face shine upon us,
that we might sense your presence, and rest in your love.
During this holy season, comfort and strengthen us in our worship,
as we rejoice in the promise revealed in your birth.
In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

Musical Interlude

"Away in a Manger"
arr. Michael Burkhardt
Brad Stipcak, Organ

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Congregation

Shepherding God, guide us back to the paths of your promise.

When we doubt, restore our trust.
When we fear, restore our courage.
When we feel alone,
restore our awareness of your presence.
Help us be a Christmas people—
a people who hear when the angels sing.
Help us be an Easter people—
a people who trust the promise of new life.
Help us be an Emmanuel people—
a people who believe in your constant presence.
In hope and trust, we pray. Amen.

(time for silent prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD

The Word of God in scripture and interpreted in proclamation is the center of worship.

Prayer of Illumination

First Lesson

Isaiah 7: 10-17

Again, the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, “Ask for a sign of the Lord your God; let it be as deep as Sheol or as high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you weary mortals, that you weary my God also?”

“Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall be eating curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in, will be deserted. The Lord will bring on you, and on your people, and on your ancestral house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.’

Thanks be to God

Special Music

“Silent Night”
Prairie Winds Flute Choir

Second Lesson

Matthew 1:18–25

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy

Spirit. Joseph her husband was a righteous man. Because he didn't want to humiliate her, he decided to call off their engagement quietly. As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the child she carries was conceived by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Now all of this took place so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled:

*Look! A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son,
And they will call him, Emmanuel.
(Emmanuel means "God with us.")*

When Joseph woke up, he did just as an angel from God commanded and took Mary as his wife. But he didn't have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. Joseph called him Jesus.

Sermon

"The Fear of the Future" Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

We respond to the Word of God in prayer and by offering ourselves and our Substance.

Prayers of the People

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

"Infant Lowly, Infant Holy"
arr. Lorie Line
Jaron Marcus, Piano

Prayer of Dedication and Lord's Prayer

Lord's 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.

~~~SENDING FORTH~~~

*Worship Equips Us To Go Forth To Serve God In The World.*

Congregational Hymn (Verses 1, 3, & 4)

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1 O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come, and behold him,  
born the King of angels!  
O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ, the Lord!

3 Sing, choirs of angels;  
sing in exultation;  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all  
glory in the highest!  
O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ, the Lord!

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing!  
O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ, the Lord!

## Charge and Blessing

## Postlude

“Joy to The World”  
Isaac Watts and Handel  
Jaron Marcus, Piano

Participating in Worship Leadership:  
Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan, Presider  
Dr. Brenda Dietrich, Liturgist  
Brad Stipcak, Director of Music/Organ  
Jaron Marcus, Piano  
Anton Ahrens, Audio/Visual  
Peter Sandquist, Editing Technician

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