



THIRD SUNDAY OF *Advent*

CARMICHAEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 12, 2021

Livestream & In-Person

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”
Randy Benfield, organ

Manz

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Click [HERE](#) to register your attendance

Pastor Ivan N. Herman

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Christmas Joy Offering

Hal Holland

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Philippians 4:4 & Isaiah 12:2)

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

People: Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid.

Leader: The Lord God is my strength and my might.

People: He has become my salvation.

Clint Dahlke

* HYMN

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

No. 9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL LM with refrain

Latin, c. 12th century

Stanzas 1-2 trans. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. 1854

Stanza 3 trans. Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916

Adapt. Thomas Helmore, 1854

Accomp. John Weaver, 1988

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
 2. O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer Our spir - its
 3. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind All peo - ples

cap-tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 by Thine ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 in one heart and mind; Bid en - vy, strife, and dis - cord

here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 cease; Fill the whole world with heav - en's peace.

Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

CALL TO CONFESSION

Clint Dahlke

Leader: God promises forgiveness through Jesus Christ. On this third Sunday of Advent, let us approach God in humility and faith.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, John the Baptist prepares the way by calling upon us to repent. We have failed to share as we should. We have failed to honor the poor and the oppressed. We have failed to bear fruit worthy of your salvation. Have mercy upon us, God. Heal and forgive us so we can welcome Christ with pure and genuine hearts. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from Isaiah 12:3-4)

Leader: With joy, let us draw water from the springs of salvation. Give thanks to the Lord! Call on God's name.

* RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

"Gloria Patri"

Traditional

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Kristen, Joy, and Ryan Miller

UNISON ADVENT PRAYER

O God of Joy, may your Spirit renew in us the joy of your salvation. Lead us to share this joy with those around us and shine our light in a world full of darkness, so that all may see the path to the deep well of salvation. We proclaim the joyous name of Jesus today, in whose name we pray, Amen.

TIME FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Christmas Medley"

Anderson

Caron Treon, handbells

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 3:7-18

⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹ In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³ He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

SERMON

Guidelines for Advent Living

Pastor Keith L. DeVries

SONG

"Prepare Him Room"

Elliott & Fournier

O behold, the mystery now unfolds
See the star shine on the virgin foretold
Angels sing and light up the sky
Hope rings out in a newborn's cry
Swing wide, you ancient gates
For Christ is born today!

Prepare Him room; Prepare Him room
Let the King of glory enter in

God with us, the promise has come to be
This, the one the prophets were longing to see
In the darkness a blazing light
To the hungry the words of life
His kingdom now is near
For those with ears to hear

Oh, our hearts, as busy as Bethlehem
Hear Him knock, don't say there's no room in the inn
Through the cradle, cross, and grave
See the love of God displayed
Now He's risen and He reigns
Praise the Name above all names!

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: A voice cries out in the wilderness: we must prepare the way of the Lord. During this season of Advent, we prepare the way of Christ with our prayers of thanksgiving and intercession. God of our salvation,

People: hear our prayers.

Pastor: As the days grow short and the nights loom long, we praise you for these seasonal reminders that there is time for work and time for rest. For those of us who know warm homes and soft places to sleep, we thank you for these precious gifts. We pray for those who are homeless, or those whose home is unsafe or financially insecure. May all your children get the rest they need to thrive. God of our salvation,

People: hear our prayers.

Pastor: As divisiveness and conflict continue to plague us, Holy God, we thank you for the generosity, kindness and care this season encourages within us. As we contemplate the vulnerability of Christ, born a fragile infant in a violent world, let us drop our facades and the masks of strength we hide behind. May this season of Advent prepare us to celebrate the strength that can be found in weakness and the power held in humility and love. God of our salvation,

People: hear our prayers.

Pastor: As your people gather in homes and churches to celebrate this season, let us be reminded of all the reasons we have to rejoice in you. Let us be reminded of your protective presence, of your gentleness and love, of your peace which passes all understanding. Guard our hearts and minds this Advent, Savior God, so we can rejoice over your faithfulness through Jesus Christ our Lord. God of our salvation,

People: hear our prayers.

Pastor: As a people of faith, we lift these prayers to you, trusting you hear us and receive us. Finally, hear us now, as we pray the prayer Christ taught us by saying together,

Unison: 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.

THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

The Lord whom we love, whom we worship and adore,
We will serve throughout this coming week. He it is who binds us together,
And He it is who sends us apart, to be God's people, be God's people. Amen.

POSTLUDE

"From Heaven Above to Earth I Come"

Zachau

*Please stand if you are able.

Liturgy by Teri McDowell Ott © *Presbyterian Outlook*, 2021.

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Audio/Video: Bruce MacLean and Michael Gray

Contemporary Worship Team:

Vocals: Nancy Studer, Tara Calderon, Lori Roberto, and Claire Aretsky

Piano: Gabe Bisho

Guitar: Paul Zeman

Drums: Will Condrey