



Community Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent
24 December 2023

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

O Holy Night

*Call to Worship

(One) This is the season of holy waiting.

(All) We wait for the One who was incarnate. God in human flesh. He redeems us through water and spirit.

(One) We watch for the day when He will break through the clouds and gather those who truly believe in Him.

(All) Until he returns, we will wait in hope and live in His light.

(One) Come let us walk in the light of God!

Opening Prayer

Fourth Candle of Advent: Love

(One) Watch and wait for Christ's coming!

(All) We light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

Lighting of the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy & Love

(One) God of love, out of darkness you bring light. Renew your love in us, so that we may be assured of Christ among us.

(All) God of Love, into our world come.

May your Spirit comfort us today.

*Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

(1) O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

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

(2) O come, O Wisdom from on high,
who ordered all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show
and teach us in its ways to go. *Refrain*

(3) O come, O come, great Lord of might,
who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times did give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain*

(4) O come, O Branch of Jesse's stem,
unto your own and rescue them!

From depths of hell your people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave. *Refrain*

(5) O come, O Key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home.
Make safe for us the heavenward road
and bar the way to death's abode. *Refrain*

(6) O come, O Bright and Morning Star,
and bring us comfort from afar!
Dispel the shadows of the night
and turn our darkness into light. *Refrain*

(7) O come, O King of nations, bind
in one the hearts of all mankind.
Bid all our sad divisions cease
and be yourself our King of Peace. *Refrain*

Responsive Psalm *Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26*

(One) I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all
generations.

**(All) I declare that your steadfast love is established
forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

(One) You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen
one, I have sworn to my servant David: 'I will establish
your descendants forever, and build your throne for all
generations.'"

**(All) Then you spoke in a vision to your faithful one,
and said: "I have set the crown on one who is mighty, I
have exalted one chosen from the people.**

(One) I have found my servant David; with my holy oil I
have anointed him; my hand shall always remain with him;
my arm also shall strengthen him.

**(All) The enemy shall not outwit him, the wicked shall
not humble him.**

(One) I will crush his foes before him and strike down
those who hate him.

**(All) My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with
him; and in my name his horn shall be exalted.**

(One) I will set his hand on the sea and his right hand on
the rivers.

**(All) He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father, my God,
and the Rock of my salvation!'**

Prayer of Confession

(All) Lord God, we praise you for sending light into this
world. We confess that we live as though the light had
never defeated darkness. We confess that we ignore the
Savior you sent to be among us and to live in us. We've
kept the birth of your Son confined to a season. Forgive
us for not opening our eyes to Jesus. Prepare us for His
return. Help us rejoice in the light so that your grace can
illuminate the darkened places of our hearts. Assure us of
our pardon that we may find rest in you. Amen.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

PROCLAMATION

Old Testament Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

New Testament Reading

Romans 16:25-27

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:26-38

Sermon

***Hymn (182)**

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

(1) Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our Lord to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

(2) King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
in the body and the blood,
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.

(3) Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.

(4) At his feet the six-winged seraph,
cherubim, with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord most high!"

RESPONSE

***Affirmation of Faith** *The Apostles Creed*
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven
and earth. **I believe** in Jesus Christ His only Son, our
Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the
Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
died, and buried; he descended into hell; on the third day
he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is
seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from
thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. **I**
believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Offertory *O Come All Ye Faithful*

*Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

Passing of the Peace

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (sins/trespas)

SENDING

Charge

Benediction

Postlude

Merry Christmas

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Games Up Here

No games this week!

Wednesday Bible Study

We're taking a break from our book study for the first
week of Christmas. Join us for the final chapter of *On the
Brink of Everything* on **Wednesday, January 3rd at
5:00pm** online and in Darley Hall.

Pastor: Rev. Jason Brian Santos, Ph.D. (206) 962-9886

Organist/Pianist: Celeste Scott

Community Presbyterian Church

429 Gunnison Avenue (184)

Lake City, CO 81235

SCRIPTURES

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

7:1 Now when the king was settled in his house, and the
LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him,

7:2 the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent."

7:3 Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

7:4 But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan:

7:5 Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in?

7:6 I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle.

7:7 Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"

7:8 Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel;

7:9 and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth.

7:10 And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly,

7:11 from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house.

7:16 Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Romans 16:25-27

16:25 Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages

16:26 but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith --

16:27 to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Luke 1:26-38

1:26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth,

1:27 to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

1:28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."

1:29 But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

1:30 The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

1:31 And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.

1:32 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 ancestor David.

1:33 He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

1:34 Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"

1:35 The angel said to 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 holy; he will be called Son of God.

1:36 And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren.

1:37 For nothing will be impossible with God."

1:38 Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.