



Community Presbyterian Church

Third Sunday of Advent
15 December 2024

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

*Call to Worship

(One) This is the season of holy waiting.

(All) We wait for the One who will open the heavens and come down to save us.

(One) We watch for the day when God's name will be made known among the nations.

(All) We wait in the shadows for the Light of the World to appear.

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

Opening Prayer

Third Candle of Advent: Joy

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

(All) We light candles of hope, peace, and joy, remembering God's promises in prayer.

Lighting of the Hope, Peace, and Joy Candles

(One) God of Joy, out of despair you plant seeds of joy. Cultivate those seeds in us, so that we may be reminded of the dawning of Christ's advent among us. May you delight in our joy this season.

(All) God of hope, God of peace, God of joy—into our darkness come. May your Spirit comfort us today as we wait.

*Hymn (154)

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*

Responsive Gospel

Luke 1:46b-55

(One) "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices
in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the
lowliness of his servant.

**(All) Surely, from now on all generations will call me
blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for
me, and holy is his name.**

(One) His mercy is for those who fear him from generation
to generation.

**(All) He has shown strength with his arm; he has
scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.**

(One) He has brought down the powerful from their
thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry
with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

**(All) He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance
of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our
ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants
forever."**

***Hymn (161)**

People Look East

(1) People, look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the guest, is on the way.

(2) Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the rose, is on the way.

(3) Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
Guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the bird, is on the way.

(4) Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the star, is on the way.

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
New Testament Reading
Gospel Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:7-18

Sermon

RESPONSE

***Hymn (173)** *Magnificat (My Soul Magnifies the Lord)*

Magnificat, magnificat, magnificat anima mea Dominum
Magnificat, magnificat, magnificat anima mea. .

***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

***Doxology & Prayer of Dedication**

Passing of the Peace

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (sins/trespases)

SENDING

Charge

Benediction

Postlude

Wait for the Lord

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

Community Presbyterian Church

429 Gunnison Avenue (184)

Lake City, CO 81235

SCRIPTURES

Zephaniah 3:14-20

3:14

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

3:15

The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.

3:16

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.

3:17

The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing

3:18

as on a day of festival." I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

3:19

I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

3:20

At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

Philippians 4:4-7

4:4

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

4:5

Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

4:6

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

4:7

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Luke 3:7-18

3:7

John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?"

3:8

Therefore, bear fruits worthy of repentance, and 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.

3:9

Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

3:10

And the crowds asked him, "What, then, should we do?"

3:11

In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none, and whoever has food must do likewise."

3:12

Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?"

3:13

He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you."

3:14

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."

3:15

As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah,

3:16

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 strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

3:17

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."

3:18

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