

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.

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.

*Hymn (154)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

(1) O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,



Community Presbyterian Church

Third Sunday of Advent
14 December 2025

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 Psalm

Psalm 146:5-10

(One) Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God,

**(All) who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that
is in them; who keeps faith forever;**

(One) who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives
food to the hungry.

**(All) The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD
opens the eyes of the blind.**

(One) The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the
LORD loves the righteous.

**(All) The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds
the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked
he brings to ruin.**

(One) The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all
generations.

(All) Praise the LORD!

***Hymn (190)**

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

(1) Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As men of old have sung.
It came, a flower bright,
Amid the cold of winter
When half-gone was the night.

(2) Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The Rose I have in mind:
With Mary we behold it,
The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright
She bore to men a Savior
When half-gone was the night.

(3) This Flower, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor
The darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death He saves us
And lightens every load.

Prayer of Confession

La Ténèbre

Our darkness is never darkness in your sight;
the deepest night is clear as the daylight.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

PROCLAMATION

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 35:1-10*
New Testament Reading *James 5:7-10*
Gospel Reading *Matthew 11:2-11*

Sermon

RESPONSE

Magnificat Reading *Luke 1:46b-55*

***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

(One) In Your mercy ...

(All) ... Hear our prayers.

The Lord's Prayer (sins/trespas)

SENDING

Charge

Benediction

Postlude

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord, keep watch, take heart.

Community Presbyterian Church

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

Pianist/Worship Leader: Amy Humphreys

SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus

35:2

it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.]]

35:3

Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees.

35:4

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

35:5

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;

35:6

then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert;

35:7

the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

35:8

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

35:9

No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.

35:10

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains.

5:8

You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.

5:9

Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors!

5:10

As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Matthew 11:2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples

11:3

and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?"

11:4

Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see:

11:5

the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them.

11:6

And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

11:7

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind?

11:8

What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces.

11:9

What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.

11:10

This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

11:11

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Make safe for us the heavenward road
and bar the way to death's abode. *Refrain*

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs. 1-5)

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

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

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The Magnificat

Luke 1:46b-55

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

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; indeed, his mercy is for those
who fear him from generation
to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm; he
has scattered the proud in the
imagination of their hearts.

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.

He has come to the aid of his child
Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to

our ancestors, to Abraham and to his
descendants forever.