

THE ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION AND PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD ON

The Lord's Day, December 1, 2019

The Christian Year: The First Sunday in Advent

10:30 AM Morning Service

*For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men,
the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all,
which is the testimony given at the proper time. (1 Timothy 2:5-6)*

[Please turn off cell phones and observe silence when the prelude begins.]

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Voluntary for Silent Prayer

*Call to Worship Hebrews 1:6; Revelation 5:11-12

Minister: When He brings the firstborn into the world, He says,
"And let all the angels of God worship Him."

People: **And I heard the voice of many angels around the throne. . . saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing."**

Unison: **O come, let us adore Him!**

*Hymn of Adoration No. 196

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
(last verse a cappella)*

*Prayer of Adoration and Congregational Invocation

Merciful God, stir up your power and with great might come among us. And because you sent your messengers, the prophets, to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation, give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins so that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore. Amen.

*Confession of Faith Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 33 and 34

Minister: Why is he called God's only-begotten Son, since we also are children of God?

People: **Because Christ alone is the eternal, natural Son of God. We, however, are children of God by adoption, through grace, for Christ's sake.**

Minister: Why do you call him our Lord?

People: **Because he has ransomed us, body and soul, from all our sins, not with silver or gold but with his precious blood, and has freed us from all the power of the devil to make us his own possession.**

Gloria Tune: Gloria (refrain)

Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 43

*Hymn of Response No. 197

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Public Confession

Minister: Hear now the commandments of Your God, which He has commanded you to keep, saying, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength." This the the first and great commandment.

People: **And the second, like unto it is this, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."**

Minister: Have you fully obeyed the Lord in all that He has commanded?

People: **No, but we have sinned against Him in thought, word and deed.**

Minister: Then confess your sins to the Lord, for with Him there is mercy and abundant pardon.

Unison: **O Great and Everlasting Father, Who dwells in unapproachable light, Who searches and knows the thoughts and intentions of the heart: we confess that we have not loved You with all our heart, nor with all our soul, nor with all our mind, nor with all our strength, nor our neighbors as ourselves. We have loved what we ought not to have loved; and have coveted what is not ours; we have not been content with Your provisions for us. We have complained in our hearts about our family, about our friends, about our health, about our occupations, about Your church, and about our trials. We have sought our security in those things which perish rather than in You, the Everlasting Father. Chasten, cleanse, and forgive us, through Jesus Christ, Who is able for all time to save us who approach You through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for us. Amen.**

Private Confession

Pastoral Prayer

The Promise of the Gospel

You were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

I Peter 1:18-21

*Hymn of Response No. 242

Not All the Blood of Beasts

Worship of God through Tithes and Offerings

*Doxology Tune: Old Hundredth

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Reading of The Holy Scriptures Mark 10:35-45

*The Prayer for Illumination

Sermon Rev. Seth Wallace

"IMMANUEL: A RANSOM FOR MANY"

*Hymn of Response No. 691

It Is Well with My Soul

*The Benediction

Postlude

**Denotes congregation standing, if able.*

**If you would like someone to pray with you,
an Elder will be available at the front of the sanctuary
following the service.**