

THE ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION AND PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD ON

The Lord's Day, December 8, 2019

The Christian Year: The Second Sunday of Advent

10:30 AM Morning Service

*I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel.
Genesis 3:15*

[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 Isaiah 61:10

Minister: I will greatly rejoice in the Lord;

People: my soul shall exult in my God,

Minister: for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;

People: he has covered me with the robe of righteousness.

*Hymn of Adoration No. 195

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

Prayer of Adoration and Congregational Prayer

God of Mercy: We praise you! For we were dead in our trespasses and sins. We were following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, and we were by our nature children of wrath. But you, God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which you loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace we have been saved – and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ, so that in the coming ages you might show the immeasurable riches of your grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For this, Father, we thank you and we praise you. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

From Ephesians 2:1-7

*Affirmation of Faith WCF XX.I

Minister: What do you believe concerning your liberty in Christ?

People: The liberty which Christ purchased for believers under the gospel consists in their freedom from the guilt of sin, from the condemning wrath of God, and from the curse of the moral law. Furthermore, it consists in their being delivered from this present evil age, from

bondage to Satan and the dominion of sin, from the evil of afflictions, from the sting of death, from the victory of the grave, and from everlasting damnation. It consists also in their free access to God and in yielding obedience to him, not out of slavish fear, but out of a childlike love and willing mind.

Unison: Thanks be to God!

*Gloria Tune: Gloria (Refrain)
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

The Old Testament Reading Isaiah 61

*Hymn of Response No. 211
God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

Public Confession

O Source of all good, we render to you, Gift of gifts, only an impoverished soul. Before your holy righteousness, we are undone, with no will to return to you, and no intellect to devise recovery. You came, God-incarnate, to save us to the uttermost, as man to die our death, to shed satisfying blood on our behalf, to work out a perfect righteousness for us. Meanwhile, we live in selfishness, hard-heartedness, with a stiff-necked and unforgiving spirit. We are correct when we say, "There is no health in us." We beg you, through your incarnate life and willing sacrifice, to pardon and blot out our sins. Have mercy upon us, O Lord.

Private Confession

Pastoral Prayer

The Promise of the Gospel

Hear the promises of God to those who truly repent of their sins and trust in Christ: "It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all." I Timothy 1:15

Reception of New Members

*Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 230
Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor

Worship of God through Tithes and Offerings

*Doxology Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost;
O Praise Him! O Praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

*Reading of The Holy Scriptures I John 3:1-10

*The Prayer for Illumination

Sermon Rev. Seth Wallace
"IMMANUEL: DESTROYS THE WORKS OF THE DEVIL"

*Hymn of Response and Preparation No. 217
All My Heart This Night Rejoices (verses 1-5)

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation and Instructions

All who have professed faith in Jesus Christ and have been baptized and who are communicant members in good standing in an evangelical church are invited to come to participate in this sacred Sacrament of the Church. This is not a Presbyterian table, and we do not restrict it as such; it is the Lord's Table. However, the church alone grants access to the table and must guard it from the leaven of unrighteousness (1 Cor. 5:6-8). Therefore, if you have not repented and trusted in Christ, or if you are harboring sin in your life, or if there is any person from whom you are estranged, please do not participate in this meal. We invite you instead to use this time to reflect and ask God to speak to your heart and give you more light and understanding. Children who have not been admitted to the table by the church should also refrain from partaking of the Supper.

*For those who prefer, the outer ring of the tray is grape juice.
Please hold the bread and cup until all have been served
so that we may partake together.*

*Departing Hymn No. 217
All My Heart This Night Rejoices (verses 6-7)

*The Benediction

Postlude

**Denotes congregation standing, if able.*

Cookies & Catechism, immediately following this service.

This morning our deacons will collect a special offering designated to provide assistance to those in our congregation and wider community who have material and financial needs. It has long been the practice of the church to receive gifts for this purpose in connection with the celebration of the Lord's Supper, remembering Jesus, who "though He was rich, yet for your sake became poor so that through His poverty you might become rich" (2 Cor. 8:9). You are encouraged to give generously. Please use the Mercy Box at the rear of the sanctuary. Thank you.

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