

# THE ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION AND PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD ON

**The Lord's Day, December 15, 2019**

*The Christian Year: The Third Sunday in Advent*

**10:30 AM Morning Service**

*But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. Galatians 4:4-5*

[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** **Luke 2:8-16**

Minister: And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them,

People: **"Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."**

Minister: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

People: **"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"**

Minister: When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

People: **"Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."**

Minister: And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

Unison: **Praise be to the Lord! Come! Let us adore Him!**

**\*Hymn of Adoration** **No. 208**

*O Come, All Ye Faithful  
(verse 4 a cappella)*

**\*Prayer of Adoration and Congregational Prayer**

O Savior, King of kings and Lord of lords: We worship you and praise you. For though you are God, the Creator and Sustainer of the universe, you took the form of a servant and were born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, you humbled

yourself and became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God has highly exalted you and given you a name above every name. So that at your name, Jesus, every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue will confess that you are Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**\*Affirmation of Faith** **HEIDELBERG CATECHISM: Q&A 35 AND 36**

Minister: What do you confess when you say: He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary?

People: **The eternal Son of God, who is and remains true and eternal God, took upon Himself true human nature from the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary, through the working of the Holy Spirit. Thus He is also the true seed of David, and like His brothers in every respect, yet without sin.**

Minister: What benefit do you receive from the holy conception and birth of Christ?

People: **He is our Mediator, and with His innocence and perfect holiness covers, in the sight of God, my sin, in which I was conceived and born.**

**Gloria** **Tune: Regent Square**

"Glory, blessing, praise eternal!" Thus the choir of angels sings.  
"Honor, glory, power, dominion!" Thus its praise creation brings.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Praise the mighty King of kings!

**Old Testament Reading** **Genesis 22: 1-18**

**\*Hymn of Response** **No. 194**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

**Prayers of the People-A Litany for Christmas**

Unison: **O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son, Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence, behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; and, as we have known Him to be the light of the world, so may we enjoy Him perfectly in the new heaven and earth; where, with you and the Holy Spirit, He lives and reigns in glory everlasting. Amen.**

Minister: For the incarnation of the Eternal Son of God, we give you thanks.

People: **For His life of perfect obedience that secured our righteousness, we thank you.**

Minister: For the one, full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice of Himself for the sins of His people, we give you thanks.

People: **For His resurrection, ascension, reign and promised return, we thank you.**

Unison: **For the gospel of grace that assures us that we are forgiven by His blood, accepted because of His righteousness and made children by adoption, we give you thanks.**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Words of Encouragement**

Minister: But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

Unison: **Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name!**

**\*Hymn of Thanksgiving** **No. 219**

*All Praise to Thee, Eternal Lord*

**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** **Galatians 3:11-18**

**\*The Prayer for Illumination**

**Sermon** **Rev. Seth Wallace**

**"IMMANUEL: FULFILLS THE COVENANT"**

**\*Hymn of Response** **No. 261**

*What Wondrous Love Is This*

**\*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.**

**\*NO COOKIES & CATECHISM UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**