

THE ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION AND PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD ON

The Lord's Day, December 22, 2019
The Christian Year: The Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:30 AM Morning Service

*When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said,
"Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you. . . I
glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do."
John 17:1-4*

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

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Voluntary for Silent Prayer

*Call to Worship Psalm 86:9-10, 12-13

Minister: All the nations you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.

People: For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.

Minister: I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever.

People: For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

*Hymn of Adoration No. 203

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

*Prayer of Adoration and Congregational Prayer

Our loving Father, this Christmas may we, with Mary, proclaim, "My soul magnifies you, and my spirit rejoices in you, my Savior, for you who are mighty have done great things for me and holy is your name." May we, with the multitude of heavenly hosts who announced your birth, shout, "Glory to you, O God in the highest." May we, like the shepherds, go forth, glorifying and praising you for all you have done. May we, like the wise men, fall before you in worship, offering back to you the treasures you have given us. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

*Confession of Faith HEIDELBERG CATECHISM, Q. 29 & 31

Minister: Why is the Son of God called Jesus, that is, Savior?

People: Because He saves us from our sins; and no salvation is to be either sought or found in any other.

Minister: Why is He called Christ, that is, Anointed?

People: Because He is ordained of God the Father, and anointed with the Holy Ghost, to be our chief Prophet and Teacher, who fully reveals to us the secret counsel

and will of God concerning our redemption; and our only High Priest, who by the one sacrifice of His body has redeemed us, and ever lives to make intercession for us with the Father; and our eternal King, who governs us by his Word and Spirit, and defends and preserves us in the redemption obtained for us.

Unison: Thanks be to God!

***Gloria Tune: Regent Square
Glory to the King of angels, glory to the church's King,
Glory to the King of nations; heav'n and earth your praises bring!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! To the King of glory sing!**

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 42:1-13

***Hymn of Response No. 193**
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Prayers of the People

Unison: O God Who loves us to the uttermost, May we comprehend your love toward us in the Eden of creation, in the manger of your birth, in the garden of your agony, in the cross of your suffering, in the tomb of your resurrection, in the heaven of your intercession.

Minister: You have loved us everlastingly, unchangeably.

People: May we love you as we are loved.

Minister: You have given yourself for us.

People: May we give ourselves to you.

Minister: You have died for us.

People: May we live to you, in every moment of our time, in every movement of our mind, in every pulse of our heart.

Unison: May we never dally with the world and its allurements, but walk by your side, listen to your voice, be clothed with your graces, and adorned with your righteousness. Amen.

Adapted from "Christ is All" in The Valley of Vision

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Words of Assurance

Minister: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, . . . for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And 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 thoughts of their hearts; he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped his

servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.

Unison: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

***Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 213**
What Child Is This

Worship of God through Tithes and Offerings

***Doxology Adeste Fideles (refrain)
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

***Reading of the Holy Scriptures Micah 5:1-5**

*The Prayer for Illumination

Sermon Rev. Seth Wallace
"IMMANUEL: GLORIFIES THE FATHER"

***Hymn of Response The First Noel**
Now let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our Heav'nly Lord
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,
And with his blood his people hath bought,
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.

*Benediction

Postlude

**Denotes congregation standing, if able.*

Lesson and Carols Service this evening at 6 p.m.