

Morning Order of Worship

First Sunday in Advent

December 3, 2017

Preparation for Worship

Announcements and Word on Worship

Reflection upon entering the Sanctuary (silently)

“Advent takes time. It cannot be microwaved, it cannot be compressed into 24 hours, and it cannot be sped up to the bustling speed of our daily lives. Advent is slow on purpose, because the slowness of the celebration mirrors the slowly unfolding drama of the Advent of the Savior Himself in history. And to reflect the slow illumination, candle by candle the darkness gets pushed back, and day by day we are invited into the slowly unfolding Advent drama.”

– Tony Reinke

Prelude

Lighting of the 1st Advent Candle Tripp and Ashlynn Peacock
The Candle of PROMISE

*Welcome and Greeting

“Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ” 1 Peter 5:14

***Hymn of Gathering – No. 194** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
VENI EMMANUEL

*Invocation

***Call to Worship** Psalm 66:1-2, 5, 8

Shout with joy to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of His name; make His praise glorious! Come and see what God has done, how awesome His works in man’s behalf! Praise our God, O peoples, let the sound of His praise be heard!

*Songs of Praise and Adoration –

Jesus with Thy Church Abide
POLLOCK

Jesus, with Thy church abide;
Be her Savior, Lord, and Guide,
While on earth her faith is tried:
We beseech Thee, hear us,
We beseech Thee, hear us.

Keep her life and doctrine pure;
Grant her patience to endure,
Trusting in Thy promise sure:
We beseech Thee, hear us,
We beseech Thee, hear us.

May she one in doctrine be,
One in truth and charity,
Winning all to faith in Thee:
We beseech Thee, hear us,
We beseech Thee, hear us.

May she guide the poor and blind,
Seek the lost until she find
And the brokenhearted bind:
We beseech Thee, hear us,
We beseech Thee, hear us.

Thou Lovely Source of True Delight
STEELE/TWIT

Thou lovely source of true delight
Whom I unseen adore
Unveil Thy beauties to my sight
That I might love Thee more,
Oh that I might love Thee more.

Thy glory over creation shines
But in Thy sacred Word
I read in fairer, brighter lines
My bleeding, dying Lord,
See my bleeding, dying Lord

Tis here, whenever my comforts droop
And sin and sorrow rise
Thy love with cheering beams of hope
My fainting heart supplies,
My fainting hearts supplied

Jesus, my Lord, my life, my light
Oh come with blissful ray
Break radiant through the shades of night
And chase my fears away,
Won’t You chase my fears away

Then shall my soul with rapture trace
The wonders of Thy love
But the full glories of Thy face
Are only known above,
They are only known above

Corporate Confession of Sin Followed by Silent Confession

O promised Christ we are a sinful people. Our pardon depends on Your coming. We are a world at war. Our peace depends on Your return. We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping a promise. Our only hope of doing God’s will is that You should work and will and act in accordance with Your promise. Lord Christ, Word made flesh, our world, our nation, our families, and our hearts wait for Your peace, for Your pardon, and for Your grace. Therefore Lord with earnest hearts we plead: come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

***Assurance of God’s Pardoning Grace** Zephaniah 3:16b-17

Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands hang limp. The Lord Your God is with you, He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.

Minister: In Christ we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

Collection of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

***Doxology** OLD HUNDREDDTH

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

Means of Grace

Prayers of the People Richard Wright

Reading of the Text John 1:1-18
(pew bible, pg. #1,207)

Leader: All men are like grass and their glory is like the flowers of the field

People: The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever. Amen.

The Sermon Familiar Stranger: Knowledge/Wisdom
Rev. Robert Browning

***Preparation for the Table – No. 196 Come, Thou Long – Expected Jesus**
HYFRYDOL

***Corporate Confession of Faith** The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell*: The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic ** church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

*We believe that Christ took upon Himself the full wrath of God described here as “hell”.
**We believe that God has called to Himself one people (the catholic or universal church).

Invitation to the Lord’s Supper

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper
Note: the outer ring of the tray contains wine and the other rings contain non-alcoholic grape juice.

Response and Blessing

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Benediction

***Congregational Response –** HYFRYDOL

Hallelujah! what a Savior!
Hallelujah! what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.

Christ Presbyterian Church exists to glorify God through our worship and our lives. By God’s grace we are a biblically-driven and Christ-centered community with a heart towards reaching, discipling, and serving others. Thank you for worshipping with us today