

A Service of Worship
December 04, 2022
Second Sunday in Advent

We Gather at God's Call

Introit

Greeting

Pouring of the Water

Prelude

Call to Worship/Advent Candle Liturgy

The Smith and Whiteside Families

Advent is a mystical season,
A time when we anticipate
What gifts are ours
Through Christ.

**One gift
Was hidden by God
From the beginning of the ages.**

This gift is the Church,
Which Christ foretold.

**Christ loved the Church
And gave himself for it,
A free offering,
Presented in love.**

And what is this Church,
Which was hidden
From the beginning of the ages?

**This Church is Christ's body,
A community of faith,**

A fellowship through which our gifts
Are shared with the world,
And by which
Our spirit awakens, refreshed.

**Therefore, if anyone be in Christ, the new creation has come.
Old things are passed away; behold, all things become new.**

*Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vv. 3, 4, special verse)*

88

*O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.
88 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O come, thou Root of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save
and give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O God of mercy, hear us as we pray;
Dispel the gloomy dark that dims our way,
Unveil the mystery of our Savior's birth;
Let Heaven's glory shine upon the Earth.
Rejoice! Rejoice! The Child of Hope draws near;
An infant born to share God's Kingdom here.*

**The final verse was written by Jean Kilby*

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Refining God,

you have sent us prophets and we have not listened.

**We have not always determined what is best
or made way for your reign in our lives,
our church,
and our society.**

**Forgive us, we pray,
and renew your covenant within us,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

Amen

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends, if we repent - God is sure to forgive.

The One who began a good work in us will bring it to completion.

Thanks be to God in whom our hope is secure!

*Response of Praise

O Little Town of Bethlehem (v. 3)

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*How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.*

We Gather around God's Word

Time with the Children		Pastor Keith Phillips
Anthem	<i>Breath of Heaven</i>	
Scripture		Matthew 3:1-12
Sermon	<i>Re Created Again</i>	Pastor Ann Pettit
*Affirmation of Faith	<i>Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!</i>	132

*Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!*

*Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!*

We Respond to God's Word

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *Like a Whisper in the Heart*

Concerns of the Congregation

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

Our father, who art in heaven Hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

We Are Sent to the World

*Hymn

On Jordan's Bank

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*On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!*

*Then cleansed be every life from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.*

*We hail you as our Savior, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away
like flowers that wither and decay.*

*Stretch forth your hand; our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more.
O let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.*

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Prepare the Way of the Lord

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*Prepare the way of the Lord.
Prepare the way of the Lord,
and all people will see
the salvation of our God.*