

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020

Joel: God's Promised Spirit

*As Advent is underway, we can be tempted with visions of consumerism.
But God's Holy Spirit offers visions far more satisfying and lasting.*

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Prelude

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Announcements

Gathering Music

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting

Red ELW 240 vs. 2

Light two candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,
gently lead them homeward.

Confession & Forgiveness

We confess our sins before God and one another.

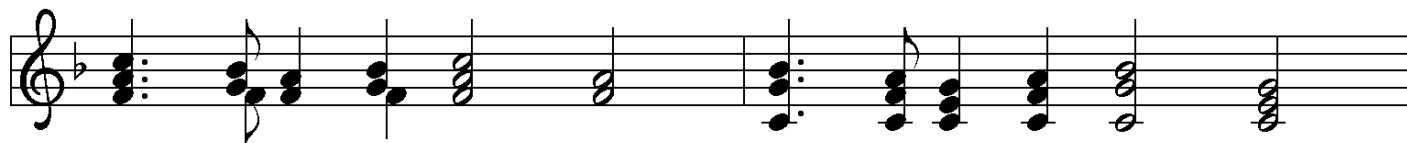
Pause for silence and reflection.

Renewing God,

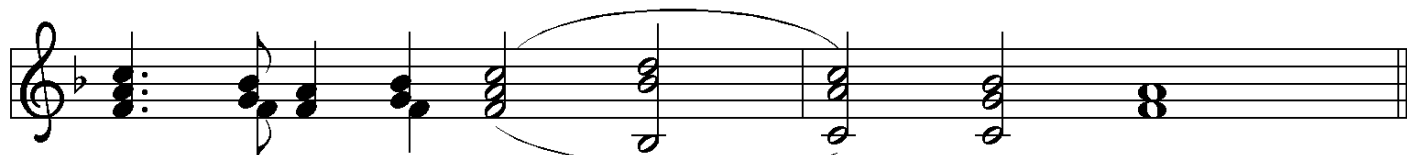
You have come into our world to live among us, yet we often lose sight of this and seek to manufacture our own truth. We are afraid to share your word lest others judge or mock us. We ignore your wisdom because it isn't convenient. We allow ourselves to be defeated by despair. Forgive our negligence and breathe new life into our heavy hearts.

God knows our every weakness and still loves us and upholds our life. May your sins be forgiven, your past forgotten, and your hope restored in the name of our incarnate savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Kyrie



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.
1, 3 Lord, . . . have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
2 Christ, . . . have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, . . . have mer - cy.
Christ, . . . have mer - cy.

Song

Emmanuel

Refrain

**Come, come, Emmanuel! Son of God, appear.
Heaven and earth, rejoice!
Salvation is drawing near. Salvation is drawing near.**

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear. Refrain**

**O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem
From ev'ry foe deliver them
that trust Your mighty pow'r to save
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.**

**O come, Desire of nations, bind
in one the hearts of humankind;
Make all our sad divisions cease,
and be for us the King of Peace.**

**Come, come, Emmanuel! Son of God, appear.
Heaven and earth, rejoice!
Salvation is drawing near. Salvation is drawing near.**

Prayer of the Day

Steadfast God,

You never abandoned your people when they were at their lowest. Hold your promises before our eyes that they might shine brighter than any darkness which threatens to overcome us, for the sake of your son Jesus. **Amen.**

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching & song

Israel had strayed and was exiled. But God was not done with her yet.

God promised the Holy Spirit, which would bring dreams and visions of a life far better than this.

Invitation to the Word

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Red ELW 257

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

Scripture Reading

Joel 2:12-13, 28-29

¹²Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.

²⁸Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. ²⁹Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit.

*Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.***

Message

Special Music

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Proclamation of Faith

**We believe that God creates all things,
renews all things, and celebrates all things.**

**We believe that God became flesh and blood,
entered a rebellious, wayward, and broken world
and absolutely changed everything.**

**We believe that the risen Jesus is the light of the world,
reconciling all things to God, making all things new,
and redeeming his creation.**

**We believe the Spirit renews life in creation,
groans in empathy with the suffering, and waits with us for rebirth.**

**We believe that with Christ we will rise
and with Christ we will celebrate all being made new.**

Prayers of the People

We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

In the season of tinsel and twinkling illusions, grant us a deeper joy that endures throughout these days, the burning promise of our coming savior.

God of hope, **Hear our prayer.**

In the spirit of St. Nicholas, use us to minister to those in need, providing for their lack without seeking recognition or thanks, but only the fulfillment of recognizing our connection with all of your children.

God of hope, **Hear our prayer.**

The earth is forgiving, even as its creator is, renewing what has been depleted and repairing what has been damaged. Make us partners in the recovery of this planet from the ravages of our abuse and neglect, and accept our repentance for all that we have done.

God of hope, **Hear our prayer.**

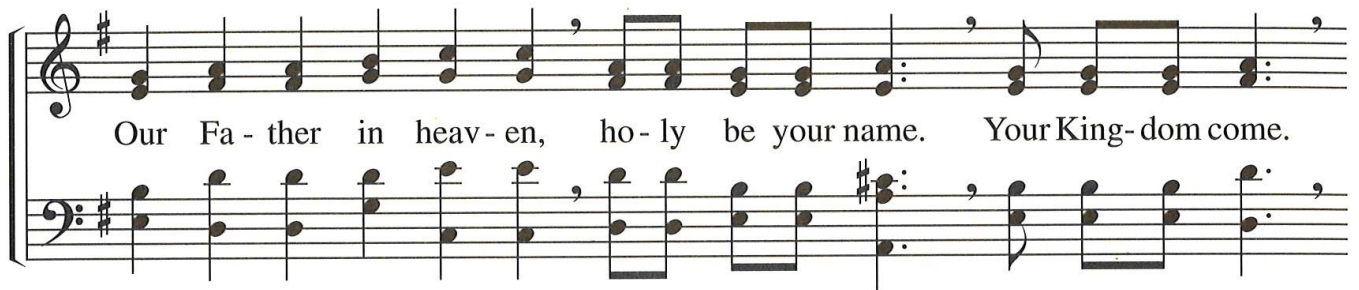
When we lose our visions, we are tempted to give in to despair. Rekindle your light within those who have given up, and work through us to reach out to the lonely, sad and discouraged. Send your healing spirit to all those who need it, especially...
God of hope, **Hear our prayer.**

With Nicholas, bishop of Myra, and all your faithful saints, we join our voices with the heavenly chorus praising the One who delivers and delights our hearts with the promise of eternal life.
God of hope, **Hear our prayer.**

Other petitions may be offered.

Our eyes await the fulfillment of all your promises, the answer to all our prayers: your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Lord's Prayer



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, ho - ly be your name. Your King - dom come.



Your will be done, on earth as in heav - en. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.



For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.

Keep us from tempta - tion, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.

For the King - dom, the pow - er and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Sharing God's Peace

"Comfort, comfort, now my people, tell of peace!" So says our God.
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Reading A poem by Amy Boucher Pye

Prepare the way for the Lord
He's coming again
To earth; to our hearts
So that his people might know
Salvation
Lasting freedom
The forgiveness of sins
A clean slate
Wrongs put right.

Through God's tender mercy
The rising sun comes
From heaven to earth
Shining through darkness
Illuminating our way.

Even in the shadow of death
He guides our feet
Into the path of peace.

Come, Lord Jesus.
Come, Lord
Come.

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, † now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song

People Look East

Red ELW 248 vv. 1,3,4

**People, look east. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Guest, is on the way.**

**Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim,
one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather,
bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Star, is on the way.**

**Angels announce with shouts of mirth
him who brings new life to earth.
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Lord, is on the way.**

Sending

All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

As the Grains of Wheat



Participants

- Pastors: Courtney Steitz & Michael TeKrony
- Assisting Minister: Jackie TeKrony
- Prelude/Gathering Music: Jordan Ortman
- Liturgy Leaders: Shanda & Tony DeAngelis, Julie & Don Gabbert,
Chase Evenson, Nick Simmons, Susan Boehm,
Susan Parks, Allison Moody & Katie Moody
- Liturgy Musicians: Diane & Kevin Klinkerfues
- Opening Song: Diane & Kevin Klinkerfues
- Special Music: Diane Klinkerfues
- Lord's Prayer: Diane & Kevin Klinkerfues,
Larry Lagerberg, Karen Novess
- Closing Song: Dave & Brenda Gleason, Scott & Denise Ikenberry,
Jordan Ortman
- Photographs: Winston Herbert, Michael TeKrony, Ron Skabo