

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

December 4, 2022, 9:00 West and 11:00 a.m. Downtown

PRELUDE *Angels from the Realms of Glory* arr. Mark Hayes
and Go tell it on the Mountain

CAROL OF PRAISE *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* #196
Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

WELCOME Pastor Amanda Davis

CAROL OF WELCOME *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* #203
Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
To take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong;
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in His sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in His path to birth.
Before Him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go,
And righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

To Him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever; that name to us is love.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH – LOVE

9:00 Judy and Ray Jones; Gracie Martinez
11:00 Barbara and Danny Kirkpatrick

SUNG RESPONSE *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* #211
O come, Desire of nations bind
All peoples in one heart and mind.
We trust Your mighty pow'r to save;
You give us victory o'er the grave.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH
Faithful Giving Prayer Pastor Amanda Davis

MINISTRY IN MUSIC *Masters in this Hall* Mark Hayes
Sanctuary Choir
*Masters in this hall, hear ye news today, brought from over sea,
And ever I you pray: Nowell! Nowell sing we clear!
Holpen are all folk on earth, born is God's Son so dear.
Going o'er the hills, through the milk-white snow,
Heard I ewes bleat while the wind did blow. Nowell! Nowell sing we clear!
Holpen are all folk on earth, born is God's Son so dear.
Shepherds many an one sat among the sheep.
No man spake more word than they had been asleep.
Quoth I, "Fellows mine, why this guise sit ye,
Making but dull cheer shepherds though ye be?" Nowell, Nowell sing we clear!
Holpen are all folk on earth, born is God's Son so dear.
Shepherds should of right leap and dance and sing.
Thus to see ye sit is a right strange thing.
Quoth these fellows then, "To Bethl'em town we go
To see a mighty Lord lie in manger low."
Therein did we see a sweet and goodly may
And a fair old man, upon the straw she lay,
And a little child on her arm had she.
"Wot ye who this is?" said the hinds to me.
Nowell! Nowell! Nowell! Nowell sing we clear!
Holpen are all folk on earth, born is God's Son so dear.
This is Christ the Lord, masters, be ye glad!
Christmas is come in, and no folk should be sad. Nowell! Nowell sing we clear!
Holpen are all folk on earth, born is God's Son so dear.
Nowell! Nowell sing we loud!
God today hath poor folk raised and cast a-down the proud!*

OFFERING RESPONSE *O Little Town of Bethlehem* #230
How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given;
So God imparts to human hearts the blessing 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.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Pastor Lance Richards

Pastor Lance: Christ our Lord invites to His table all who love Him, who earnestly repent of their sins and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Lance Richards

Pastor Lance and People: Lord of Christmas Peace, we have done wrong. We have tarnished the gift you gave freely. We have buried you so deeply in our hearts, the world doesn't see you. We have not followed Christ, we have ignored your teachings, we have lived lives of apathy against your love, we have built fences and fortresses to push people away, and we have silenced the cries of those in need. Forgive us, we pray. Free us from our sin, free us from our captivity, free us to a life lived in Joy through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor Lance: Hear the good news: God is light, in whom there is no darkness at all. If we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us of all sin. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Pastor Lance and People: Glory to God. Amen.

GLORIA

Angels We Have Heard On High
Refrain

#238

Gloria, in excelsis Deo;
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VIDEO

Courtney Hutchins and Mandy Jones

SCRIPTURE

Pastor Lance Richards

Luke 1:26-38

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Pastor Lance Richards

Let It Be According to Your Word

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor Lance Richards

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

#626

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor Lance Richards
and Pastor Amanda Davis

Pastor Amanda: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor Amanda: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Pastor Amanda: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise!

Pastor Amanda: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away and our loved failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day when justice shall roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever flowing stream when nation shall not lift up sword against nation neither shall their learn war anymore. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Pastor Lance: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, whom you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations. You scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts and have mercy on those who fear you from generation to generation. You put down the mighty from their thrones and exalt those of low degree. You fill the hungry with good things, and the rich you send away empty. Your own Son came among us as a servant to be Emmanuel, your presence with us. He humbled himself in obedience to your will and freely accepted death on a cross. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. On the night before he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to His disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to His disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Pastor Amanda: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

People: Amen.

COMMUNION MUSIC **To Thee My Heart I Offer** Elaine Hagenberg

Sanctuary Choir

To Thee my heart I offer, oh Christ-child sweet and dear;

Upon Thy love relying, be Thou ever near.

Oh take my heart and give me Thine and may it be forever mine,

Oh Jesus, holy, undefiled, my Savior meek and mild.

What brought Thee to the manger, oh Christ-child sweet and dear?

Thy love for me, a stranger, be Thou ever near,

Oh Lord how great Thy perfect Love, that reaches from the heavens above.

Thy love for us, by sin defiled, that made Thee, God, a child.

Let me be Thine forever, oh Christ-child sweet and dear;

Uphold me with Thy mercy, be Thou ever near.

Thy hand bestows Thy gifts to me and all I have, I offer Thee!

My heart, my soul, and all I own; let these be Thine alone.

THE LORD'S PRAYER IN SONG arr. Albert Hay Malotte

Our Father, which 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.

INVITATION TO THE ALTAR

Pastor Lance Richards

CAROL OF HOPE AND REMEMBRANCE *There's a Song in the Air* #249

There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky!

There's a mother's deep prayer and a baby's low cry!

And the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,

For the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

There's a tumult of joy o'er the wonderful birth,

For the virgin's sweet boy is the Lord of the earth.

Ay! the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,

For the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

In the light of that star lie the ages imperaled;

And that song from afar has swept over the world.

Every hearth is aflame, and the beautiful sing

In the homes of the nations that Jesus is King!

We rejoice in the light, and we echo the song

That comes down through the night from the heavenly throng.

Ay! we shout to the lovely evangel they bring,

And we greet in His cradle our Savior and King!

BENEDICTION

Pastor Lance Richards

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *O Come all Ye Faithful* #234

True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,

Lo, He shuns not the Virgin's womb;

Son of the Father, begotten, not created;

Refrain

O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him,

Christ the Lord.

POSTLUDE

Swiss Noel

Louis Claude D'Aquin

DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC

Dr. Terry Morris

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC

Cynthia Douglas

ORGAN

Paul Butt

PIANO

Jeremy Wood