

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*All Christians are invited to participate in the Sacrament fully.
It is our custom to commune at the time we are served the bread and the cup.*

PRAYER

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 13

Prepare the Way

*BENEDICTION

One: Announce the good news of Jesus Christ;

Prepare the way for Christ's witness to be heard.

**All: Christ brings hope for true peace to all people.
God is patiently waiting for us to claim this gift.**

One: Lead lives of holiness and godliness;
Enjoy treasures of heaven and earth that God offers.

**All: God's Word brings us both comfort and challenge.
We are accepted by God and commissioned for duty.**

*POSTLUDE

Prepare the Way, O Zion

R. Lau

SUNDAY CELEBRATION

December 4, 2011 ✦ 11:00 a.m.

2nd Sunday of Advent

**Listening devices and large-print materials
are available from the ushers.**

Please turn off all cell phones and electronic pagers.

**All those who are able, please stand.*



Second Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

P Manz

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT LITANY

One: During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is our mighty God.

All: You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

One: We look to the One in whom we find redemption.

All: You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

One: We look to the One who forgives our sin.

All: You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

One: We look to the One who overcomes the darkness.

All: You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

One: We look to the One who has come to set us free.

All: You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING *God With Us, Emmanuel*

Joel Raney

Chancel Choir, with congregation (see insert)

*HYMN 3

Comfort, Comfort You My People

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory, we confess that we have not recognized you in our midst nor listened for your voice. Our faith is fragile, and our iniquity goes unrecognized amid our massive self-concern. We have lived as if we have no need to account for the life we have been given. Our church is focused more on our own survival than on its missing in the world. We come to you today with sincere repentance for our neglect. We have failed to prepare the way for Christ's entry into our everyday environment. Pardon and change us, we pray. *(silent confession)* **Amen.**

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: ...Friends hear and believe the Good News of the Gospel

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE TO PARDON

ST. LOUIS

**O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us today.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still the dear Christ enters in.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

ANTHEM

Every Valley
Chancel Choir

John Ness Beck

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle Reading 2 Peter 3:8-15a (Pew Bible N.T., page 238)
Gospel Reading Mark 1:1-8 (Pew Bible N.T., page 34)

MEDITATION

“THE Happening is Happening:
What Do You Mean, ‘Repent’” Pastor Gribble

*HYMN 5

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

RESPONDING TO AND SEALING OF THE WORD

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS TO GOD

DEDICATORY PRAYER

While we are waiting and preparing for Christ to appear, we are seeking, O God, to act as faithful followers. May our offerings extend the promise of salvation to people whose lives are broken by neglect, abuse, bad choices, and sinful ways. May these gifts offer hope to all whose suffering and loss seem too heavy to bear. May our church be a listening, caring presence for all its members, and through us for all those we meet in our work and leisure. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Picardy

D. Cherwien

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*INVITATION TO TABLE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LEADER: Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE: **We lift them to the Lord.**

LEADER: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

GLORY TO THE FATHER

Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

THE GREAT MYSTERY OF FAITH

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**