



December 8, 2024 – Livestream
Second Sunday of Advent

GATHERING

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brandon Wallace

SPOTLIGHT ON COMMUNITY PARTNER

40 West Digital

Douglas Morris

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

Lo, Cometh the Morn

arr. F. Ashdown

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Out of God's deep compassion the dawn of heaven will break upon us.

People: From God's faithfulness the light of peace will shine on us.

Leader: Christ is coming to free us from our fears,
to liberate us from our sins,
and to give joy to every longing heart.

People: Come, holy Jesus, our strength, our comfort, our hope.

*OPENING HYMN #196

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

***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.***

***Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.***

OPENING PRAYER

**Lord God,
who remembers and redeems us with tender mercy,
prepare us to receive Jesus, the Mighty Savior,
and guide our feet in the way of peace. Amen.**

Choir: Hope is a star that shines in the night, leading us on till the morning is bright.
Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth, giving a promise of safety and worth.

When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid, none shall be afraid.

Leader: In this season of Advent, we remember that Christ is coming to bring peace.
For a world overrun with meaningless war

People: Christ is coming to bring peace.

Leader: For kindred divided by anger

People: Christ is coming to bring peace.

Leader: For a world bound up in political turmoil

People: Christ is coming to bring peace.

Leader: For those who are battling inner turmoil

People: Christ is coming to bring peace.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Kelley Warbinton

FIRST LESSON

Philippians 1:3-11

³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹ having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PRAYER #2214

Lead Me, Guide Me

Lead me, guide me, along the way, for if you lead me, I cannot stray.

Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

MUSICAL RESPONSE #2284

Joy in the Morning

***There'll be joy in the morning on that day,
there'll be joy in the morning on that day,
for the daylight will dawn when the darkness is gone,
there'll be joy in the morning on that day.***

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Antiphonal for Advent

J. Raney
with Choristers
Rosie Jordan, director

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, good news and joyful tidings tell.
All heaven and nature sing. Let earth receive her King.
Rejoice! Let the bells ring out, let the whole world shout, "O come, Emmanuel, come!"
Come and fill the earth with light. Come and reign in our hearts forever.
Chase away the gloom of night. Come, Emmanuel, Rejoice!
Make war and strife and quarrels cease, fill all the world with heavenly peace.
All heaven and nature sing. Let earth receive her King.
Rejoice! Let the bells ring out, let the whole world shout, "O come, Emmanuel, come!"*

*ADVENT DOXOLOGY

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.***

*GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:68-79

⁶⁸ 'Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.
⁶⁹ He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David,
⁷⁰ as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
⁷¹ that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.
⁷² Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,
and has remembered his holy covenant,
⁷³ the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,
to grant us ⁷⁴that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,

might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

⁷⁶ And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

⁷⁷ to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.

⁷⁸ By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

⁷⁹ to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,

to guide our feet into the way of peace.'

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Zechariah's Song

Rev. Jill Moffett

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #202

People, Look East

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: Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.

Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.

People, look east: Love, the Rose, 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: Love, the Star, is on the way.

Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth.

Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.

People, look east: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

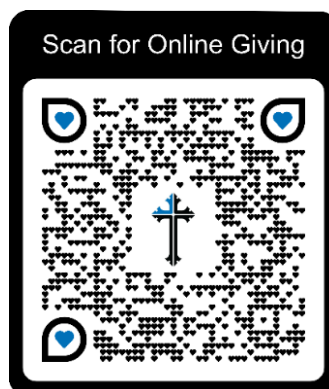
*THE CHARGE AND BLESSING

Darren Cushman Wood

POSTLUDE

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

arr. A. Ridout



Upcoming Events:

Youth Progressive Dinner, December 15, 4:30pm

Longest Night Service, December 22, 5:00pm:

For many of us holidays are difficult, even painful, at times. This simple service of silence and song, scripture and prayer will acknowledge the gift of letting go and celebrate the gift of holding fast to hope.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services, December 24:

Children and Families Service, 5:00pm

Celebration of Holy Communion, 7:30pm

Festival of Lessons and Carols, 10:30pm

Last Sunday of the Year, December 29, 11:00am

one combined worship service

Scan to sign up for our newsletter:



This week's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood
Senior Pastor

Brandon Wallace
Minister of Christian Education

Jill Moffett

Guest Preacher

Kelley Warbinton

Liturgist

John Hague, Allen McCormack
& James Horton

Audio Visual

Mark Gilgallon

Music Director

Heather Hinton

Organist