

Order of Worship

November 27, 2022

10:00 o'clock

First Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements

Dr. Steve Schibsted

Prelude

Dr. Stephen Main

***Church Bell**

(*The congregation is invited to stand)

***Call to Worship**

Patti Heilbron

Liturgist: The advent of Christ brings God's love into our midst!

People: We sing praises to God for the salvation Christ brings to us!

Liturgist: Because of Christ, the weak are strengthened, the fearful are encouraged.

People: Love came down when God came down to us.

Liturgist: God has come to us in Christ to walk with us in the paths of righteousness!

All: As we continue through this season, may we be filled with God's love.

***Hymn**

O come, O come Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

Lighting of the 1st Advent Candle

the Lelke-Wallway family

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, as we begin this season of Advent – as we prepare to make room in our own hearts for the coming of Christ – we cannot possibly grasp the full meaning of the Incarnation. That you emptied yourself to become one of us, that you walked among us and experienced the full range of human emotion. You call us to live as your children, reflecting your love and grace and glory. Yet, despite wanting to live up to our high calling, we fail time and time again. We grasp where you let go. We are proud where you were humble. We avoid pain and disappointment where you embraced it for the sake of love. Forgive us, gracious God. Renew and restore us that we might walk the way of Jesus. For, we pray in his name. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Words of Christian Greeting

Baptism of Finnegan George McLaughlin

Dr. Don Ashburn

Pastoral Prayer and 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 for ever. Amen.

Anthem

Gabriel's message

arr. David Willcocks

Chancel Choir Section Leaders

(1919-2015)

Gloria! The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; "All hail," said he, thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady," *Gloria!*

"For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honor thee; thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favored lady." *Gloria!*

"Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, "to me be as it pleaseth God," she said. "My soul shall laud and magnify his Holy Name." Most highly favored lady, *Gloria!*

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn. And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say: "Most highly favored lady," *Gloria!* -14th century

Scripture Lesson

I John 4:7-12;16-18

(Pew Bible p. 863)

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

Sermon

The Gifts Jesus Came to Give Us

"THE GIFT OF LOVE"

Dr. Steve Schibsted

Offertory

The morning trumpet

Trad. American

Ian Cochran, trumpet

arr. Lloyd Larsen

The Handbell Ensemble

(born 1954)

*Doxology

(Hymnal, p. 572)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

O God, because we have been given so much, help us to give more. Because we are loved so much, give us the strength to love more. Because we are accepted as we are, give us the grace to accept others without judgment or prejudice. In this season of thanksgiving and of expectation for the coming of Christ, we give ourselves and our gifts with grateful hearts. For, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Hymn 565**

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Hyfrydol

***Commission and Benediction**

Voluntary

Improvisation

Receiving the sacrament of baptism this morning is **Finnegan George McLaughlin, son of Shannon Peloquin and Mark McLaughlin.**

We are delighted and grateful that you have come to worship here this morning. We especially welcome those of you who are visitors. If you would like more information about Piedmont Community Church, please visit our website at PiedmontChurch.org.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of **Finnegan McLaughlin's baptism from his family.**

Please silence your cell phones.

This morning's ushers are **Sweeling Chen, Carolyn Chun, and Janet & Kurt Peterson.** The Board of Deacons greeters are **Liz Becker and Jane Anderson.** They will be available during the coffee hour to answer questions you may have about the church.

Please join us after the service for coffee.

The Clara Barton Room (outside sanctuary to the right) has closed circuit viewing of the service for parents with infants and young children.

Please ask an usher for assistance if needed.

Memorial Poinsettias

The sanctuary will be adorned for Christmas with traditional poinsettias, to be designated in memory or honor of someone special. To donate a plant, please fill out this form, attach your check (\$15 per plant), and mail to: PCC, 400 Highland Ave., Piedmont, 94611, or drop off in the office. Make check payable to "PCC," noting the memo, "poinsettia." Forms must be received by December 19.

ENCLOSED IS _____ (\$15 per plant)

Donor Name & Address:

Given in Honor / Memory (circle one) of:

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

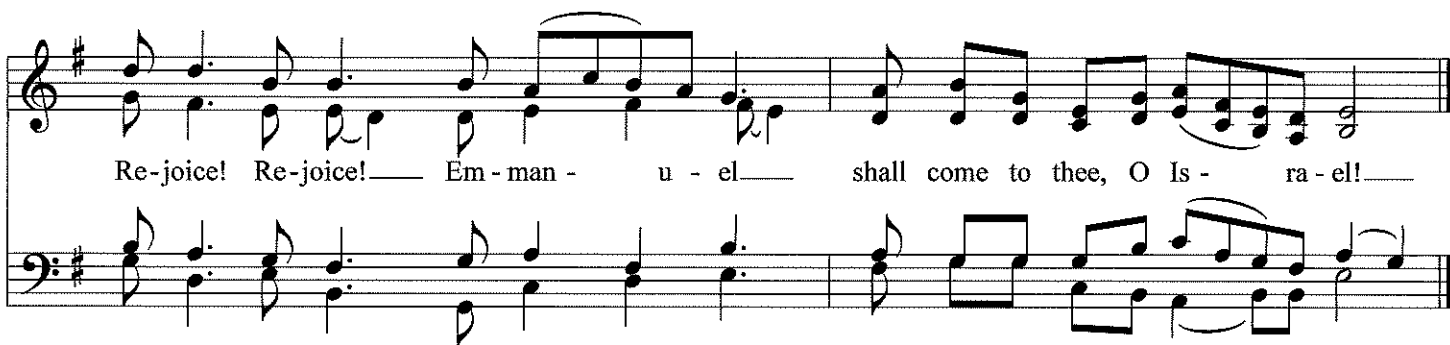
Veni Emmanuel



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,
2. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se free, thine own from Sa - tan's tyr - an - y;
3. O come, thou Day - spring, come — and cheer our spir - its by thine ad - vent here;



that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the son of God — ap - pear.
from depths of hell thy peo - ple save, and give them vic - tory o'er — the grave.
and drive a - way the shades — of night, and pierce the clouds and bring — us light.



Words: Latin, circa 9th century, alt.

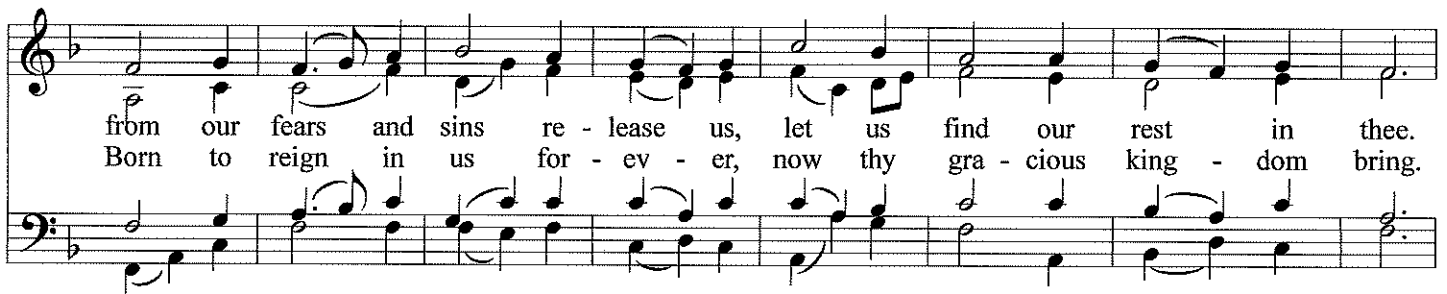
Music: plainsong, Mode I, *Processionale*, 15th century; adapted Thomas Helmore (1811-1890), alt.

Come, thou long expected Jesus

Hyfrydol



1. Come, thou long ex - pec - ted Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king.



from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone.



Dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
By thine all suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.