

Prelude

Let us turn our hearts and minds to a time of silent reflection and prayer.

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: ONE: In this Advent season of waiting on the Lord,

ALL: We trust the Lord's goodness. We rely on God's mercy. We find shelter in God's steadfast love.

ONE: In this Advent season of waiting on the Lord,

ALL: We walk in the Lord's way. We follow God's example of love. We keep our covenant promises.

ONE: In this Advent season of waiting,

ALL: Lord, forgive and forget our sins. Remember your love. Remember each one of us. Remember your people everywhere.

ONE: In this Advent season of waiting,

ALL: Lord, we ask for your salvation. We pray for your leading. We wait for your coming.

*Hymn of Praise

"That Beautiful Name"

Celebration Hymnal No. 266

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

Heavenly Father, as we anticipate Jesus' birth with great excitement, may we also find peace in the knowledge of Christ's salvation, who was the shepherd of his people Israel. Lord, shine in our hearts and lives, lead us in our way, and guide us in our walk. In this Advent season, we stand on tiptoe, awaiting your coming. Immanuel, invade our lives. In the name of Christ, whose birth we remember, whose coming we await and whose peace we need. Amen.

Anthem

Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 24:7-10

New Testament Lesson

John 1:9-13

*Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen, Amen.

Sermon

"Getting Dressed Up For Advent"

Rev. William Kren

Hymn of Reflection

"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

Celebration Hymnal No. 107

Pastoral Prayer

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.

Choral Response

Worship in Tithes and Offerings

*Doxology

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.

*Offertory Prayer

*Communion Hymn

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Celebration Hymnal No. 244

Service of Communion

Uniting in Covenant
Sharing of the Bread
Sharing of the Cup

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

"Make Us One"

Make us one Lord, make us one
Holy Spirit, make us one
Let our love flow, so the world will know
We are one in you, we are one in you.

*Postlude

*We invite you to stand if you are able.

Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 24:7-10 (NLT)

⁷Open up, ancient gates! Open up, ancient doors, and let the King of glory enter. ⁸Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty; the LORD, invincible in battle. ⁹Open up, ancient gates! Open up, ancient doors, and let the King of glory enter. ¹⁰Who is the King of glory? The LORD of Heaven's Armies — he is the King of glory.

New Testament Lesson: John 1:9-13 (NLT)

⁹The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. ¹¹He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. ¹²But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. ¹³They are reborn — not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God.

The Word of God, for the People of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

(Announcements continued)

Heifer International Collection For Christmas

Through Heifer International a congregation can make a lasting difference in the lives of poor families around the world in countries like Ecuador, Honduras, Cambodia and Bangladesh. The gift of livestock helps struggling families lift themselves out of poverty. Heifer gives them the direct assistance they need, like chickens, cows, pigs, even llamas, so families can create their own farms and businesses and have steady incomes. We will collect donations through December to purchase livestock and the amount we collect will determine what we buy: a flock of chickens for \$20, a goat or sheep for \$120, alpaca or llama for \$150, or a heifer for \$500. Donation containers are available in the Sanctuary and Mayflower Room.

SERMONNOTES

December 2, 2018

Sermon Title

Rev. William Kren

First Sunday of Advent

GETTING DRESSED UP FOR ADVENT

Dearborn Congregational Church

John 1:9-13 (NLT)

⁹The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. ¹¹He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. ¹²But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. ¹³They are reborn — not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God.

1. SOME PEOPLE REFUSE TO DRESS UP FOR ADVENT (John 1:9-10)

2. SOME PEOPLE AGREE TO DRESS UP FOR ADVENT (John 1:12)

3. MANY OTHERS ARE DRESSED UP AND READY FOR ADVENT (John 1:12-13)

**The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said,
“Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!**

John 1:29 NLT