

Prelude

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

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Advent Reading

Teresa Curless & John Peters

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: In this season of prophecy, promise, and preparation – we come to be renewed and refreshed.

ALL: We are here to be inspired by stories of a messiah who will change the world – and change us.

ONE: We come to listen for words of hope and joy, promise and challenge.

ALL: We come with open ears, open minds, and open hearts. We come to receive the blessings God has in store for us in this season of waiting.

ONE: Come! Let us worship our God.

ALL: The One who brings all things to fulfillment.

*Hymn of Praise

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent”

Pilgrim Hymnal # 107

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION: (Unison Reading)**

O God, we come into your holy presence today – anticipating the power of your love as it seeks expression among us. Help us slow our lives down, pause in order to wonder, be reclaimed by a sense of awe at who you are and what you are seeking to do in our broken world. Give to us today, in this season of giving and sharing, hearts that are humble and willing to give. Thank you for the birth of Jesus: to restore and redeem us all by your all-powerful love. Give us joy that we might come to know and claim the reality of Bethlehem. May we too be brought to our knees as we worship the Christ child, who even now seeks nothing less than our hearts and souls. In the name and spirit of the babe named Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Anthem

Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 116:12-19

New Testament Lesson

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

*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.

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

Sermon

“A Season of Prayer”

Rev. William Kren

Hymn of Preparation

“A Communion Hymn for Christmas”

Insert

Service of Communion

Uniting in Covenant
Sharing of the Bread
Sharing of the Cup

*Hymn of Going Forth

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

Pilgrim Hymnal # 115

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

““Emmanuel”

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

His name is called Emmanuel;
God with us, revealed in us;
His name is called Emmanuel.

*Postlude

*We invite you to stand if you are able.