

Prelude

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

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: Be patient! Wait and Watch for the Lord is drawing near to us.

**ALL: We have gathered here this day to hear the good news and to gather strength for the times to come.**

ONE: Be at peace with one another.

**ALL: Let love and wisdom prevail.**

ONE: Open your hearts and souls to God’s healing word.

**ALL: Lord, touch our hearts. Teach us to patiently listen for your words of love. Amen.**

\*Hymn of Praise New Century Hymnal # 116  
“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION:**

O Lord, you know the deserts and the parched places in our lives. We seek your healing power. Forgive our lack of faith in your loving power. We look around us and all that we see is what we don’t have. We fail to notice the daily blessings you lavish upon us. Clear our blindness to the needs of others. Strengthen us and move us from lame excuses for not serving you. Help us to truly listen to one another, not with our pat answers ready, but with loving and generous hearts. Heal us and make us ready to truly be your disciples. Lead us on this Advent journey to the place of new birth and to the place of our redemption; for we ask this in Jesus’ Name. AMEN.

Anthem

Old Testament Lesson 2 Chronicles 7:11-16

Gospel Lesson Matthew 26:6-13

\*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

“A Season of Preparation”

Rev. William Kren

Hymn of Reflection

“O Sing a Song of Bethlehem”

New Century Hymnal # 51

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.*

Prayer 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

\*Hymn of Going Forth

“Watcher, Tell Us of the Night”

New Century Hymnal # 103

\*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.