

# St. Andrews Presbyterian Church



"Promise of Peace"

Artist: Gale Smith

December 4, 2022

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2022

10:30 A.M.

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

#### **THE GATHERING**

PRELUDE

"Eucharistia"

G. WINSTON CASSLER

*"Be still and know that I am God."*

*Psalm 46:10*

(Please use this time to prepare for worship in silence.)

### WORDS OF WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

PASSING THE PEACE

*"...I was a stranger and you welcomed me."*

*Matthew 25:35b*

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

(The people may greet each other in the spirit of Christ.)

### CALL TO WORSHIP AND LITURGY OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*Reader 1:* In Isaiah 11:9 the prophet declares, "They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of God, as the waters cover the sea." We light this candle as a sign of hope that truth will prevail, and justice be done for all people. As we pray and work for truth, compassion, and justice, near and far –

***All: Risen Christ, Light of the word, shine in our lives and shine among us now.***

RESPONSE 88 (v. 7)

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

VENI EMMANUEL

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;  
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

### OPENING PRAYER

\*HYMN 83

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

STUTTGART

### \*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Let us lay before God and one another: The distances between us, the impatience, the idolatries, and the lack of compassion that form our confessions this day.

**For if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves. Yet in mercy, God will forgive us and renew us. Let us pray:**

**God of the future, as you came long ago in the birth of a child, so you are coming into the world to save and reconcile and make all things new. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom. Distracted by holiday lights, we have failed to see and to welcome you in the poor, the marginalized, the weak and vulnerable. Discouraged by newspaper headlines, we have failed to see and welcome signs of your healing presence. In your mercy, forgive us. Renew hope within us, that we may be awake and alert, watching for our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.**

Silent Confession

\*KYRIE

**Lord, have mercy,  
Christ, have mercy,  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

For nothing is impossible with God. There is no place you can go, no end of the earth you can run, where God cannot find you. There is nothing on earth or beyond death that can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. **We are forgiven. We are loved. We are reconciled to God. Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.**

\*RESPONSE 113 (Refrain) "Angels We Have Heard on High"

GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

### ***THE WORD***

CHILDREN'S TIME

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

(Page 35, Glory to God Hymnal)

SINGING WITH THE CHILDREN: "Baby's A Comin', Oh Yeah"

Baby's A Comin', Oh Yeah; Baby's A Comin', Oh Yeah;

Baby's A Comin', Baby's A Comin';

Baby's A Comin', Oh Yeah

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE HEBREW TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE 91

"Come, Come Emmanuel"

COME, COME EMMANUEL

THE EPISTLE READING: Romans 15:7-9 & 13 (Unison)

**So welcome each other, in the same way that Christ also welcomed you, for God's glory. I'm saying that Christ became a servant of those who are circumcised for the sake of God's truth, in order to confirm the promises given to the ancestors, and so that the Gentiles could glorify God for God's mercy. As it is written...Isaiah says,**

***There will be a root of Jesse,  
who will also rise to rule the Gentiles.  
The Gentiles will place their hope in him.***

**May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in faith so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

The Word of God. The Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

CHORAL ANTHEM

THE GOSPEL READING: Matthew 3:1-12

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

"Who Shall Lead God's Dream?"

***THE RESPONSE***

\*HYMN 106

"Prepare the Way, O Zion"

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

"Bethlehem"

SOITHER CAROL MELODY

\*DOXOLOGY/Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (Hymn 607)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

***THE EUCHARIST***

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE (Responsive, congregation please read the **bold** print.)

Hallelujah! The Lord our God the Almighty reigns!

Let us rejoice and exult and give God the glory,  
for the marriage of the Lamb has come.

**Blessed are those who are invited  
to the marriage supper of the Lamb.**

THE PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

How can we thank you, O God?...

and with the whole creation, we join the ancient and eternal hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

We give you thanks, Holy God, for Jesus...and praying: Come, Lord Jesus!:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us...Almighty God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

THE SHARING OF THE MEAL

*(Please offer your hands for the portion of bread that will be given to you and then take a cup to partake. You may deposit the cup in the side baskets on the way back to your seat or in the holder provided at your seat.)*

COMMUNION HYMN 92 "While We Are Waiting, Come"

WAITING (Cason)

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Unison)

**Mighty God, holy is your name. We thank you for gathering us at your table and feeding us with the bread of life. As we leave this table to go to the many places where you call us, send your Spirit to accompany us, so that we may share in your magnificent work: lifting up those who are laid low, showing mercy to all in need of human kindness, and feeding the bodies and hearts of all who are hungry. Amen.**

***THE SENDING***

\*HYMN 129

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

EST IST EIN' ROS'

\*COVENANT OF THE CONGREGATION (Unison)

**This Advent, in anticipation of the birth of our Savior, let us mend a quarrel. Build peace. Seek out a forgotten friend. Encourage youth. Keep a promise. Forgo a grudge. Listen. Be kind, be gentle. Laugh a lot. Express our gratitude. Welcome a stranger. Gladden the heart of a child. Take pleasure in the beauty and wonder of the earth. Speak our love. Speak it again. Speak it still once again!**

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Fanfare"

MARK OTTERSTAD

\*Those who are able, please stand.