

ADVENT THEME: [UN]EXPECTED

December 24, 2021

Christmas Eve

Prelude

Christmas Selections

Please respect those who wish to sit in silence.

Chiming of the Hours

Call to Worship

liturgists, 6 p.m. the Patterson family liturgists, 11 p.m. the Lowndes family

O sing to the Lord a new song:
Sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord, bless God's name;
Tell of God's salvation from day to day.
Declare God's glory among the nations,
God's marvelous works among all the people.
For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.
Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice.

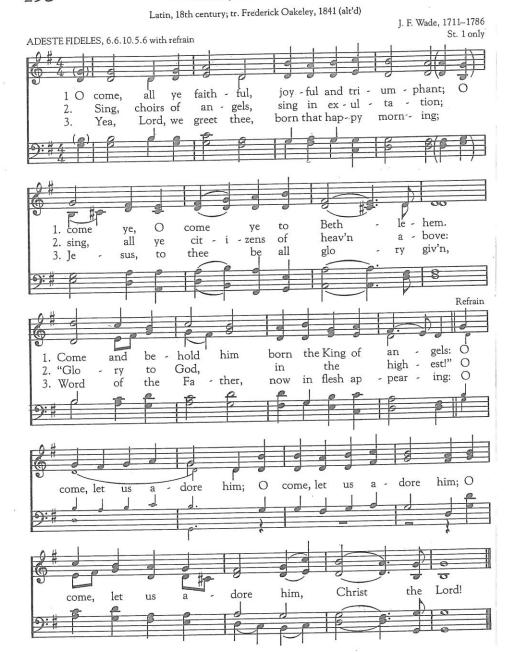
*Processional Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Red Hymnal, No. 195

ADESTE FIDELES

O Come, All Ye Faithful



*Invocation

O God, we have waited with anticipation for the coming of the Christ Child. We extend our arms to the heavens, reaching out toward your light in the darkness. We turn all around and see our neighbors, their faces shining with your joy. We open our hands to the world, ready to receive you wherever you are to be found. Let us pay open-hearted attention to the signs of your presence. Let us rest in the peace you so abundantly give us, that we may celebrate Christ's birth and meet the challenge of God-with-us in our world. Amen.

*Gloria

Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo

Lighting of the Advent Candles

6 p.m., Patterson Family 11 p.m., Lowndes Family

We have waited and prepared for a baby to be born.

We have watched for signs of God's light breaking into the world.

We have we looked forward with wonder and delight.

We came to Advent with our expectations,

But we've also learned to be ready for the Unexpected.

And tonight we proclaim, "Those who walked in darkness have seen a great light."

Rejoice, Rejoice, Christ has come.

Tonight we light these candles rejoicing in God's promise of endless peace.

Rejoice, Rejoice, Christ has come.

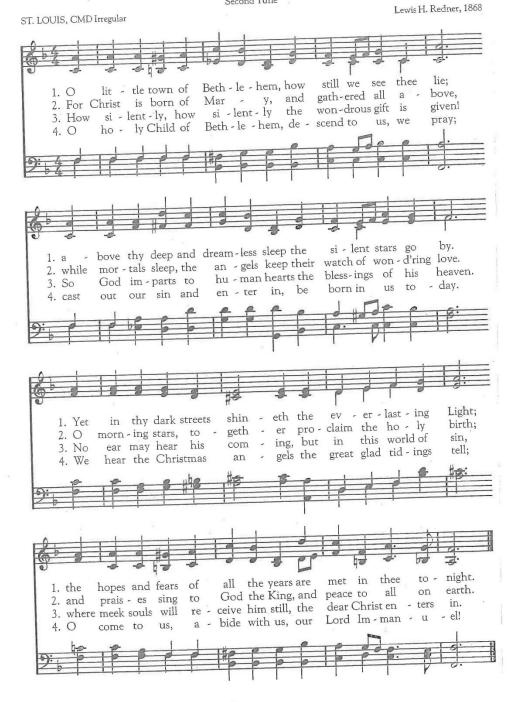
Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Red Hymnal, No. 194

ST. LOUIS

Second Tune



First Testament Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7 Pew Bible, page 594

Anthem Huron Carol Bells

Gospel Lesson Luke 2:1-20 Pew Bible, page 54-55

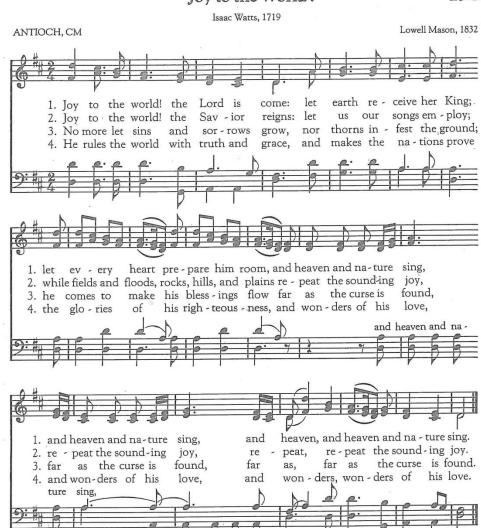
For the Word of God in scripture, For the Word of God among us, For the Word of God within us, Thanks be to God.

Homily6 p.m., Dr. Rev. Scott Jones
11 p.m. Rev. Katie Miller

* **Hymn**Joy to the World!

Red Hymnal, No. 198

ANTIOCH



Call to Offering

Dr. Rev. Scott Jones

Offertory

Peace Child

and

*Hymn of Dedication

VENI EMMANUEL

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here below. Praise Holy Spirit evermore. Praise Triune God whom we adore. Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel has come to thee, O Israel.

heaven and na - ture

sing.

*Offertory Prayer

God of peace and joy, you bind us together as if in swaddling bands of cloth. We are meant to be together, meant to be active participants in your great story. We give these gifts to be signs of your ongoing presence with us, as they further your dreams for the world. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

"The Peace of God be with you."

In Unison: Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Celebration of the Sacrament of Communion

God be with you.

And also with you.

Open your hearts.

We open our hearts for the coming of Christ.

Let us give thanks and praise to God.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed all humanity in your image and called us to love you and serve the world. Even when we turned from you, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity and made covenant with us. In the fullness of time you sent Jesus. Your word became flesh and dwelt among us full of grace and truth, and we beheld your glory, Emmanuel. In the beloved community of your church, we celebrate the new covenant Christ Jesus made with us by water and the Spirit. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the song of heaven and with all the faithful of every time and place, to forever sing the glory of your name:

Holy, holy God, you are holy. Ruler of the sea and sky. Angel hosts above a-dore you. Earth sings out its endless cry: "Hail hosanna in the highest!" "Peace on Earth," the heav'ns reply.

Words of Institution

Invitation to the Table

Please come forward as the ushers indicate. If you are unable to come forward, remain in your seat and an usher will serve you. The bread is gluten-free.

The Bread and Cup Laudate Dominum

Mozart

Claire Bouma, Soprano

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God, we give you thanks, for a child has been born, filling us with wonder. We now take this Christ light, sharing it with one another and with all those whom we encounter. May it bring comfort and joy. Amen.

Passing of the Light

Hymn

Silent Night, Holy Night

Black Hymnal, No. 134

STILLE NACHT



Benediction

Usher us forward into the world O God, taking the light, the joy and the peace.

Lead us to share with one another – not just in this season but every day.

As we extinguish these small lights, remember that we now bear the Light of Christ in our hearts, to let it shine for all to see.