

# Communion Service for December 1, 2019

## FIRST SUNDAY in ADVENT

A SILENT TIME OF PREPARATION

PRELUDE “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” -arr. D. Cherwien

THE PASTORAL GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE/CALL TO WORSHIP

One: What does the Advent Wreath Mean? The circle says God’s love and care are eternal. The green leaves say that God’s love and care are renewed every day. The cheerful light of the candles is like the brightness of Christmas hope. Let us pray...

**All: God of Hope, we thank you for the hope you gave the Jewish captives in Babylon. The hope of a Messiah who would bring peace, joy and righteousness. We thank you for the hope you have given us. It makes our lives bright. We look forward to the celebration of the coming of the Messiah. Help us to share the Good News with our neighbors. Amen.**

• GATHERING HYMN #125 “Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

• PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*In unison*)

**God of Amazing Surprises, we are rushing headlong into this season of buying, giving, greed, and struggle. We want to think of the holiday as delightful, but we have a tendency to make it a time of highest stress. We over-schedule our time, overdraw our resources, ignore the special moments in which we could just relax and have quiet with you. The reality is that your love should be our foundation. Forgive us for our stubborn insistence on maintaining schedule rather than focusing on your love.**

• SILENT PRAYER

• WORDS OF ASSURANCE

• THE GLORIA PATRI #35 (*Sung by all*)

**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.**

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN “Hanging the ornament” - HOPE

• GREETING OUR FRIENDS IN CHRIST Yakkō Somash – “How are you?”

• CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #121

**Prepare the way of the Lord, Prepare the way of the lord**

**And all people will see the salvation of our God**

*(Repeat as necessary)*

*(Children are invited to join us for Sunday school ages 3 years – 6<sup>th</sup> grade)*

*(Ushers will collect prayer cards at this time.)*

SCRIPTURE

First Reading: **Isaiah 2:1-5** (page 631)

Psalm 122 (page 571)

Second Reading: **Matthew 24:36-44** (page 27)

Romans 13:11-14 (page 162)

SERMON

CHORAL ANTHEM “Lift Up Your Heads” -arr. C.W. Andersen

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD’S PRAYER *(In unison)*

**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.**

OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERTORY “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” -arr. A. Lovelace

• OFFERTORY RESPONSE #162 “What Child Is This” *(Verse 3 & Refrain)*

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, rich, and poor, to own him,  
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.**

**This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.**

• DEDICATION OF GIFTS *(In unison)*

**God, thank you for the wake-up call, reminding us to be ready. Thank you for the opportunity to gather each week in your house, that we might encourage one another to stay on your paths. And thank you for the opportunity to give these gifts for your ministry, that together we might help the world be ready to receive your gift of hope born in a stable, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table & Communion Prayer

Hymn of Thanksgiving #414: *(Sung by all)*

**Eat this bread, drink this cup;**

**Come to me and never be hungry.**

**Eat this bread, drink this cup;**

**Trust in me and you will not thirst.**

Words of Institution

Sharing the Supper

Prayer of Thanksgiving *(In unison)*

**Because we are here in your house of worship, O God, we know that you have already come. Again, though, we celebrate Advent with thanksgiving - and anticipate your coming again to complete what you have already begun. As we are fed at your table, may we be fed by your light. Amen.**

- SENDING HYMN #88 “All My Hope on God Is Founded”
- BENEDICTION
- MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE “Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying” -arr. J. Behnke

### **Enter to Worship – Depart to Serve**

*Our time of worship concludes at the end of the Postlude. If you would like to remain in the sanctuary to listen to this music written and played to glorify God, please do so quietly.*

*Otherwise, you may join others in the narthex for refreshments and fellowship.*

*Emanuel now offers online giving with the **GIVE+** program. For more details, please contact the church office or log on to our webpage [emanuel-ucc.org](http://emanuel-ucc.org) and click on the **GIVE+** icon at the bottom.*

### **Communion at Emanuel**

At Emanuel we practice an open communion table. We invite all who have come seeking God's grace to share in this holy meal. The ushers will invite you to come forward, you may take a piece of bread and dip it in the juice (white) or wine (red). Or you may take a small cup of juice. **All the bread is now Gluten Free.** Ingredients are listed below. If you choose to remain seated a server will come to you.

GLUTEN FREE WHOLE GRAIN BREAD: Water, Tapioca Starch, Potato Starch, Brown Rice Flour, Cane Sugar, Rice Flour with Cultured Rice Flour (for freshness), Modified Tapioca Starch, Whole Grain Sorghum Flour, Whole Grain Amaranth Flour, Expeller Pressed Canola Oil, Whole Grain Teff, Xanthan Gum, Yeast, Egg Whites, Tapioca Maltodextrin, Baking Powder (Sodium Acid Pyrophosphate, Sodium Bicarbonate, Potato Flour, Monocalcium Phosphate), Flaxseed Meal, Sea Salt, Molasses, Calcium Sulfate, Enzymes. CONTAINS EGGS.