

*Journey
to the
Manger*

ADVENT 2: JERUSALEM – THE HEART OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

GREETING:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

ADVENT KYRIE:

Chorus:

Light of heaven, shine upon us,
Lord, have mercy.

Promise given, shine within us,
Christ, have mercy.

Hope eternal, shine before us, guide us with
Your light

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Verse (Leader Only)

For the peace that shines from heaven,
and the hope your coming brings,
For the church who walks in waiting,
trusting you in everything, we pray:

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LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH – Candle of Peace

Reader: Today we light the second candle; the candle of peace.

God's promise echoes through the prophets:

Comfort, comfort my people, says our God.
Even when the world waits in silence,
God's word brings peace.

(Light Candle 2)

READER: And all God's people say:

**ALL: The light of Christ shines in the darkness,
and the darkness cannot overcome it.**

GATHERING SONG: The Heart of Worship

Verse 1

When the music fades all is stripped away
And I simply come
Longing just to bring something that's of worth
That will bless Your heart

Pre-Chorus

I'll bring You more than a song
For a song in itself is not what You have
required
You search much deeper within
Through the way things appear
You're looking into my heart

Chorus

I'm coming back to the heart of worship
And it's all about You all about You Jesus
I'm sorry Lord for the thing I've made it
When it's all about You all about You Jesus

Verse 2

King of endless worth no one could express
How much You deserve
Though I'm weak and poor all I have is Yours
Ev'ry single breath

Matt Redman
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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Manger Throne (Sunday Tempe/Gilbert)

Verse 2

You could have marched in all Your glory
Into the heart of Rome
Showed them splendor like they'd never known
But You wrote a better story
In humble Bethlehem
Creator in the arms of common men

Chorus

Glory be to You alone
King who reigns from a manger throne
My life my praise everything I own
To Jesus the King on a manger throne

Sat 5pm Tempe: **NO** Children's Message
Sunday Tempe & Gilbert: *Sing at all services*

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 2:2-5

² In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³ Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴ He shall judge between the nations
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵ O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

ADVENT GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Refrain:

On this road we walk in faith,
Seeking signs of love and grace.
Christ is coming, hearts prepare!

Guide our steps with tender care;
Oh Word of life, we meet you there.

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GOSPEL: Luke 1:5-25

⁵ In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was descended from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶ Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. ⁷ But they had no children because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

⁸ Once when he was serving as priest before God during his section's turn of duty, ⁹ he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord to offer incense. ¹⁰ Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. ¹¹ Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified, and fear overwhelmed him. ¹³ But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. ¹⁴ You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, ¹⁵ for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶ He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." ¹⁸ Zechariah said to the angel, "How can I know that this will happen? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." ¹⁹ The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. ²⁰ But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur."

²¹ Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering at his delay in the sanctuary. ²² When he did come out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. ²³ When his time of service was ended, he returned to his home.

²⁴ After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, ²⁵ "This is what the Lord has done for me in this time, when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people."

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON:

"Jerusalem"
Pastor Andrea Cain
(Sat 5pm/Sunday Tempe)

"Jerusalem"
Pastor Thaddeus Book
(Gilbert)

SONG OF THE DAY: ELW 247 Come Now, O Prince of Peace

1 Come now, O Prince of peace,
make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

2 Come now, O God of love, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Savior.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.

4 Come, Hope of unity, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.

Text: Geon-yong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope
Text © Geonyong Lee.

APOSTLES' CREED:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid, we pray to Jesus.

Watchful at all times,
let us pray for strength to stand with confidence
before our Maker and Redeemer.

That God may bring in the kingdom with justice and mercy,
let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

That God may establish among the nations
his scepter of peace and righteousness,
let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

That God may bind up the brokenhearted,
restore the sick
and raise up all who have fallen,
let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

That the light of God's coming may dawn
on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death,
let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

That, with all the saints in light,
we may shine forth as lights for the world,
let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

We commend ourselves and all for whom we pray
to the mercy and protection of our gracious Lord.

Amen.

PEACE:

May the peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We share a word of peace with our neighbors.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING:

The grace of Christ calls us to lives of gratitude and generosity. In Jesus Christ we are given new life. Let us celebrate this life by giving generously to the work of God's redeeming love.

The Hunger Jar is a love offering and is designated for the Desert Cross Angel Trees sharing Christmas hope with families in our community.

You are invited to share your gifts in worship while others give electronically at www.desertcross.org with the giving button, text giving, or by QR code. We give thanks for all the ways you support God's mission of outreach through Desert Cross that changes lives for the sake of the gospel

ADVENT OFFERING SONG: Waiting Here for You

Verse 1

If faith can move the mountains
Let the mountains move
We come with expectation
Waiting here for You
Waiting here for You

Verse 2

You're the Lord of all creation
And still You know my heart
The Author of salvation
You've loved us from the start

Chorus 1

Waiting here for You with our hands
Lifted high in praise
And it's You we adore

Singing alleluia

Verse 3

You are ev'rything You've promised
Your faithfulness is true
We're desp'rate for Your presence
All we need is You

Chorus 2

Waiting here for You with our hands
Lifted high in praise
And it's You we adore singing alleluia
(We're) singing alleluia

Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, Martin Smith

CCLI Song #5925663

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OFFERING PRAYER:

Mighty and faithful God,
Your power brings light from darkness and hope from despair. As we bring our offerings, we trust in your enduring promises, believing that you will use these gifts to reveal your love and fulfill your purposes in the world.

Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION:

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:

Leader: We come before God, confessing our need for the One who brings true peace.

(Silence for reflection)

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have trusted in the powers of this world
instead of your kingdom.**

**We have chased after control instead of faith,
and ease instead of hope.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may wait with open hearts for your coming among us.**

Amen.

Hear the good news: God's kingdom has drawn near.

Your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, +
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying, this cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever.
Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

This is Christ's table. There is a place for you.
All are welcome.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION:

Come forward to receive the bread and a cup of wine/juice. Alert an usher for communion in your seat. All are welcome.

LAMB OF GOD: ELW p. 201 (Tempe Only)

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION SONGS: ELW 262 Wait for the Lord

Refrain

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

1 Prepare the way for the Lord.
Make a straight path for God.

2 The glory of the Lord
shall be revealed

3 All the earth will see the Lord

4 Rejoice in the Lord always.
God is at hand.

5 Seek first the kingdom of God,
seek and you shall find

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God With Us

Verse 1

Oh You've come to bring peace to be Love
To be nearer to us
You've come to bring life to be Light
To shine brighter in us
Oh Emmanuel God with us

Chorus

Our Deliverer You are Savior
In Your presence we find our strength
Over ev'rything our Redemption
God with us
You are God with us

Verse 2

Oh You've come to be Hope to this world
For Your honor and name

And You've come to take sin to bear shame
And to conquer the grave
Oh Emmanuel God with us

Bridge

You are here
You are holy
We are standing in Your glory (Lord)
(REPEAT)

Ending

Oh God with us
You are God with us

Jason Ingram, Leslie Jordan
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POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER:

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Gracious God, as we gather at your table, we give thanks for the gift of Christ's presence in bread and wine. Renew our hope and awaken our hearts to watch and wait for his coming. Empower us to carry his light into the world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION:

May the hope of Christ guide your journey,
the peace of God guard your hearts,
and the Spirit go before you, +
as you wait for the Savior of the world.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: He Shall Reign Forevermore

Verse 1

In the bleak mid-winter
All creation groans
For a world in darkness
Frozen like a stone
Light is breaking
In a stable for a throne

Chorus

(And) He shall reign forevermore forevermore
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore
Unto us a Child is born
The King of kings and Lord of lords
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore

Verse 2

If I were a wise man
I would travel far

If I were a shepherd
I would do my part
But poor as I am
I will give to Him my heart

Bridge

Here within a manger lies the One
Who made the starry skies
This baby born for sacrifice
Christ the Messiah
Into our hopes into our fears
The Savior of the world appears
The promise of eternal years
Christ the Messiah

Chris Tomlin, Matt Maher
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Songs; I Am A Pilgrim Songs
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DISMISSAL:

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE:

Thank you for supporting the Desert Cross mission. Here are the ways you can donate today:		
ONLINE GIVING:  Get your smart phone and scan the QR-code with your phone camera	SECURE TEXT GIVING: Text "GIVE" to 833-636-1502	USPS: 8600 S. McClintock Drive Tempe, AZ 85284

Flower Donation:

The flowers on the altar in Tempe this weekend are given by Daniel Fulton.