



SECOND SUNDAY OF

Advent

December 7, 2025
10:15 am Family Contemporary Worship

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming

arr. Hartsell

Worship Song

Jesus Messiah

Carson, Tomlin, Cash, Reeves

Verse 1

He became sin who knew no sin
That we might become His righteousness
He humbled Himself and carried the cross
Love so amazing love so amazing

Chorus

Jesus Messiah Name above all names
Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel
The Rescue for sinners
The Ransom from heaven
Jesus Messiah Lord of all

Verse 2

His body the bread His blood the wine
Broken and poured out all for love
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn
Love so amazing love so amazing

Bridge

All our hope is in You
All our hope is in You
All the glory to You God
The Light of the world

Ending

Jesus Messiah
Lord of all
The Lord of all
The Lord of all

Confession

P: Our God is patient, merciful, and filled with grace. God desires to be in an all-embracing relationship with creation, yet we fall short. Let us turn towards God with repentance and confess our sins.

(Sitting, kneeling, or standing as you feel called)

P: Everlasting God, you love justice, and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression.

C: O come; o come Emmanuel...

P: We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty.

C: O come; o come Emmanuel...

P: In your compassion, forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone.

C: O come; o come Emmanuel...

P: Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world.

C: Amen.

P: Our God sent God's Son, Jesus Christ, into this world to embody forgiveness, mercy, and grace. Our Emmanuel was born for you. Your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN.

Prayers of the Church

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

(Refrain)

This Advent season, let us lift our prayers for a hurting world, for your church, and for all in need—kneeling, sitting, or standing.

Emmanuel, God-with-us, you are our hope in a messy and uncertain world. In these Advent days, slow our hurried hearts. Help us listen for your voice and focus on what truly matters. As we prepare to celebrate your birth, we place our hope in you.

You entered our world at Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, reveal your presence wherever there is strife, injustice, war, or religious conflict. Where the world is torn apart, sow your deep and abiding peace.

Let the light of your love shine always in our hearts. As Christmas draws near, we marvel at the depth of your love for us. Transform our lives by that love, and let it touch every person we encounter. Stir your Holy Spirit within and among your church, that we may shine your light to all the world.

And together we sing...

(Refrain)

Emmanuel, God with us,

You heal the sick and give hope to the hopeless. Though we do not command your power, we pray for all who long to be made well. Mend their wounds, soothe their fevers, and make broken people whole again. We remember those on our congregation's prayer list and those we name aloud or in our hearts.

(Pause for congregation)

We lift to you all who grieve and all whose hearts are broken. Your love never fails; you turn the shadow of death into daybreak. Help us receive your word with believing hearts, so that, trusting your promises, we may be lifted from sorrow into the joy and peace of your presence.

In this Advent of expectation, draw us together in unity, that our praise might echo not only within these walls but throughout our lives. Draw us together in mission, that the hope within us becomes the song we sing. Draw us together in service, that the path we follow may lead us to share our gifts with a hurting world.

As we lift these prayers, keep our hearts aflame with the hope of Christmas and the promise of a Savior. In the name of Jesus Christ, we sing our amen...

(Refrain)

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The second candle reminds us that the prophets waited for a Messiah to come and save the people.

"A voice of one calling: 'In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'" - Isaiah 40:3-5

(Children may head out for C&C Kids)



This Week's Story: The Angel Visits Mary
Icebreaker Question: What is your favorite
Christmas movie?

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Welcome Home and Announcements (See back page for additional announcements.)

THE WORD

Matthew 3:1-12

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

(Please be seated)

Sermon

Pastor Matt Simpkins

THANKSGIVING

Anthem

All Earth Is Hopeful

Taulé/ arr. Keeseker

All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last! Furrows lie open for God’s creative task: this, the labor of people who struggle to see how God’s truth and justice set everybody free.

People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell: “A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel;” she conceived him “God with us,” our brother, whose birth restores hope and courage to children of this earth.

Mountains and valleys will have to be prepared; new highways opened, new protocols declared, Almost here! God is nearing, in beauty and grace! All clear every gateway, in haste, come out in haste!

We first saw Jesus a baby in a crib. This same Lord Jesus today has come to live in our world; he is present, in neighbors we see our Jesus is with us, and ever sets us free. Our Jesus is with us, and ever sets us free.

Offertory Response

253 He Came Down (st. 1, 2)

He Came Down



1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light;
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.

Statement of Belief

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Come to the Table—Everyone's Invited!

Holy Communion is a celebration of Christ's love, shared through His body and blood. If you're hungry for His presence, this meal is for you! We commune by taking a piece of bread and dipping it into wine or grape juice. Need grape juice or gluten-free options? No problem—the assistant will gladly help you out. Kids are welcome, too! Just let the assistant know if your child will be receiving Communion or would prefer a special blessing. We're so glad you're here—let's share this joyful moment together!

Communion

Words of Institution

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 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.

Our Father, who is of heaven,
Holy is your name
Your kingdom come
Your will be done
On earth as it is in heaven
Give us today our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation
and deliver us from evil
For yours is the kingdom
And the power, and the glory
now and forever, Amen.

OR

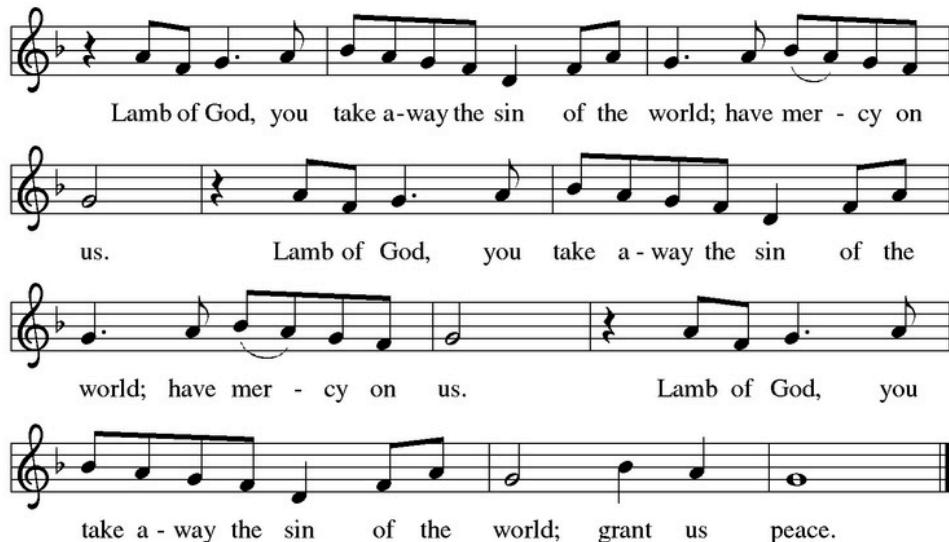
Welcome to the Table

P: Come now and feast on the gifts of God for the people of God.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please be seated)

Lamb of God



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.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Song

God With Us

Ingram, Jordan

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

The Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in God's grace.
C: Amen.

Benediction

P: May God who comes among us, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.
C: Amen.

Sending Song

This Is Amazing Grace

Wickham, Riddle, Farro

Verse 1

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Verse 2

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Chorus

(Yeah) (Oh) This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

Verse 3

Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
The King of Glory the King of Glory

Verse 4

Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Bridge

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy worthy worthy

The Doxology (sung a capella)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!

Sending

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!
C: Thanks be to God!

Children are invited for music with Mr. Larry in the choir room following worship.