

# Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2022

8:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

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## *Welcome*

*Prelude - Prelude for Advent - H. Dean Wagner*

## *Call to Worship*

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;

**behold, the King of glory waits.**

Redeemer, come, with us abide;

**our hearts to thee we open wide,**

let us thy inner presence feel;

**thy grace and love in us reveal.**

*Opening Hymn No. 211\*\* - O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

O come, O come, Emmanuel,

and ransom captive Israel,

that mourns in lonely exile here

until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emanuel shall come to thee,

O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,

and order all things far and nigh;

to us the path of knowledge show

and cause us in her ways to go.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emanuel shall come to thee,

O Israel.

O come, O come, great Lord of might,

who to thy tribes on Sinai's height

in ancient time once gave the law

in cloud and majesty and awe.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emanuel shall come to thee,

O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree,  
an ensign of thy people be;  
before thee rulers silent fall;  
all peoples on thy mercy call.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emanuel shall come to thee,  
O Israel.

### ***Invocation***

**Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. Give us grace to heed your warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### ***Lighting of the Advent Wreath***

*Reader 1:* "They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious"

*Reader 2:* We are the followers of that root of Jesse Isaiah spoke of. We are the ones who are now called to stand as a signal to the world, to all of creation, that peace is the will of the one who created us. Peace is the knowledge of the Lord that we proclaim from sea to shining sea.

*Reader 1:* "In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea proclaiming. "Repent for the kingdom of heaven has come near." And "bear fruit worthy of repentance"

*Reader 2:* We light these candles, the candle of joyful hope and the candle of proclaimed peace, in part to remind ourselves that we are a people rising toward God's promise. But we also light them as a sign to the world, an announcement there are some who hold on to hope and there are some who work the ways of peace. We stand as a sign that Emmanuel is still our fervent prayer.

### ***Scripture Reading***

Luke 1:26-29; 2:16-19

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### ***God's Word for Young Disciples***

#### ***Anthem***

8:30 - *Were you There on that Christmas Night* - Natalie Sleeth

11:00 - *Magnificat in C* - Charles Villiers Stanford

***Apostle's Creed***

**We believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
We 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.**

***Gloria Patri*** (Hymnal p. 70)

***Discipleship Moment***

***Offertory - Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming*** - James Pethel

*(Please fill out the presence card found in the pews and place it in the offering plates or bring it to the front during the offertory.)*

***Doxology***

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; raise him  
above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Baptism*** (Hymnal p. 34)

***Baptism Response Hymn No. 2051*** (FWS)

***Invitation***

***Communion*** (Musical setting - see insert)

***Closing Hymn No. 202\*\**** - *People, Look East*

*People, look east. The time is near  
Of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
Trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the guest, is on the way.*

*Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,  
One more seed is planted there:  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,  
That in course the flower may flourish.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the rose, is on the way.*

*Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim  
One more light the bowl shall brim,  
Shining beyond the frosty weather,  
Bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the star, is on the way.*

*Angels, announce with shouts of mirth  
Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming  
With the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Lord, is on the way.*

***Benediction and Choral Response*** (Hymn No. 230)

**Oh holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.**

***Postlude - In dulci jubilo*** - J.S. Bach

**CHURCH NOTES**

**Being Baptized Today:** Tobias James Priebe and Zebediah Reuben Steven Priebe, sons of Rev. Jon and Kattie (Barnhart) Priebe.

**Chandelier cleaning:** The sanctuary chandeliers will be shined up for the Christmas season Saturday, December 10th at 9 am. We need two volunteers on the very safe catwalk above the ceiling to lower and raise the chandeliers and about eight at pew level to replace dead bulbs & wash and dry the glass globes. We should be done well before noon. Please respond to rboltz@kent.edu or call and leave a message at 330-928-8635 if you are able to help.

**Holiday Nuts Are Back!** Head down to Asbury Hall between and after church services and in the church office during the week to purchase delicious nuts for the holiday. Or order them for a specific Sunday. Order forms are available at the Welcome Center. We are offering Deluxe mixed nuts and whole cashews for \$10/lb and raw pecans for \$12/lb.

**ROCK Advent Celebration:** Our last ROCK of the year will take place **TODAY** December 4 from 5 – 6 p.m. Children will have a snack supper and participate in activities related to Christmas at First Church. Please register at the Welcome Center or in the church office. ROCK will resume on January 8.

**Parent's Morning Out:** We will sponsor a Parents Morning Out for infants through grade 6 on Saturday, December 10 from 9 am to noon. Children will enjoy a pancake breakfast, shop at the Santa Shop (included in the cost), watch a movie and more. The cost is \$10/child and \$25 max/family of preschool and elementary children. Families with more than 3 children need to pay an extra \$10/child under 3.

**Advent Remembrance Service** - On Wednesday, December 21, at 7:00 pm we will hold our Advent Remembrance Service in the Chapel. This event is a way we can remember those who have lost loved ones, or experienced other loss in the past year. If you plan to attend, please bring an ornament to hang on the Christmas tree in memory of your lost loved ones for the service. You may take the ornament home after the service ends.

**First Church Feeds** - Our December food distributions have been moved to the 3rd Saturday due to the Christmas holiday. Please mark your calendars for December 17th. We will pack at 10:00 am on Monday December 12th, and Wednesday December 14th at 7:00 pm. If you have not volunteered before, or you are interested in helping be the hands of Jesus to those in our community that need food assistance, please contact Jen LaFleur at [jenlafleur98@yahoo.com](mailto:jenlafleur98@yahoo.com) for more information.

## Next Steps

### Mary, Did You Know?

*Luke 2:19* – Just what is Mary pondering?

Perhaps the Shepherds' words or Elizabeth's extraordinary greeting

### Hail Mary, Full of Grace

*Luke 1:28* – *ke-**chari**-to-mene* – full of grace or favor

Since the 3<sup>rd</sup> century in Syria, Eastern Christians have called Mary, "*Theotokos*"

"People, full of God's grace, are God's plan for the problems of this world"

*I. Rev. Adam Hamilton*

Questions for Reflection: For Mary, God's favor meant a life of risk and sorrow as the bearer of the Christ child, who would die for the sins of the world. In this light, do I think of her life as "blessed?" Yet, in the face of risk, danger, and heartbreak, Mary made herself available to God, to be used according to God's will. How can I make myself more available for the will of God to be done through my actions, words, and thoughts?

Question for Discussion: In order to hear from God through Gabriel, Mary had to be attentive. Do I take the time for this? Do I pay attention to what is happening around me, for what God might be doing in each moment? Do I listen so that I don't miss God's angels when they may come to speak to me?

Memory Verse: **Luke 2:19** - But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart."

Readings for this Week: Luke 2:8-14, Ephesians 4:26-5:2, Romans 12:16-21

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –  
PRAYER BULLETIN  
DECEMBER 4, 2022**



**MINISTERS & STAFF:**

Forrest Waller

**HOSPITALIZED:**

**MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:**

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| Scott Adie<br>Bob Ahonen<br>Debbie Amundsen<br>Shirley Asher<br>Mary Ellen Atwood<br>Jim Bailey<br>Behrman family<br>Mark & Cindy Blaser | Robert & Patsy Boyd<br>Larry Brimlow<br>Don Corbett<br>Tom Cully<br>Jean Finnegan<br>Rose Gregory<br>Mary Griest<br>Joyce Haberkost | Jim Henes<br>Gus Mercurio<br>Bonnie & Jerry Nine<br>Pat Park<br>Kathi Sawyer<br>David Townsend<br>Mary & Ken Tunstall<br>Marilyn Waller |
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**DEEPEST SYMPATHY & PRAYERS:**

Family of member Dave Gohr on his death on 11/26.

Family of member Donna Copeland on her death on 11/17.

Family of member Gary Kinsey on his death on 11/20.