
MT. LEBANON EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ NOVEMBER 28, 2021

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Carolyn Poteet

PRELUDE

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Patricia Crosby

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH CANDLES

MLEPC Family Members

Leader: The first candle of Advent witnesses to the hope of following Jesus. We travel during these days to the stable and the manger where the One who gives hope is born.

All: Jesus came as the hope of God for the hopeless and helpless. He is the Light that shines like the Christmas star, when all else is dark.

Leader: In Him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:4-5)

All: In Christ alone, our hope is found. He is our light, our strength, and our song.

Leader: Even as Christ came once at His first Advent, so He will come again at His second Advent. On the Day of the Lord, we shall behold Him, and our hope shall be fulfilled.

All: So we wait for the blessed hope--the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. (Titus 2:13)

OPENING PRAYER

OPENING SONGS OF WORSHIP “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Worship Team

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

[Chorus]

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to Thee O Israel*

O Come, Thou Day-Spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And earth's dark shadows put to flight [Chorus]

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high
Who orders all things mightily
To us the path of knowledge show
And teach us in her ways to go [Chorus]

O come, Desire of nations, bind
All people in one heart and mind
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease
Fill all the earth with heaven's peace [Chorus]

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him, born the King of Angels

[Chorus]

*O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord*

Sing, choirs of angels sing in exultation
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above
Glory to God, all Glory in the highest [Chorus]

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning
Jesus to Thee be all glory given
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing [Chorus]

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Steve Aguzzi

SONG OF ASSURANCE

“Emmanuel”

Worship Team

What hope we hold this starlit night
A King is born in Bethlehem
Our journey long we seek the light
That leads to the hallowed manger ground

What fear we felt in the silent age
Four hundred years can He be found
But broken by a baby's cry
Rejoice in the hallowed manger ground

[Chorus]

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel, God incarnate here to dwell
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Praise His Name, Emmanuel*

The Son of God here born to bleed
A crown of thorns would pierce His brow
And we beheld this offering
Exalted now the King of kings
Praise God for the hallowed manger ground [Chorus]

CHILDREN ARE DISMISSED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Luke 1:26-56

Pastor Linda Pokrajac

SERMON

“A Reason, A Season, A Lifetime”

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 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.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostle's Creed

I 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. He descended into hell. The third day, He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there, He shall 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.

CLOSING HYMN #244

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Cynthia Pratt

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us, Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's Strength and Consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver, Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit, Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

BENEDICTION

Pastor Linda Pokrajac

POSTLUDE

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Patricia Crosby