



Sunday, December 20, 2020

“A voice cries: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 4 Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.””

Isaiah 40:3-5

## **Order of Worship and Lyrics**

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**  
**Advent Carol: Emmanuel**

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel;  
God with us, revealed in us; His name is called  
Emmanuel

**Call to Worship**

**Carol:** Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns;  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Carol:** Joy Has Dawned/Angels We Have Heard On High

Joy has dawned upon the world,  
Promised from creation—God’s salvation now unfurled,  
Hope for ev’ry nation.  
Not with fanfares from above, Not with scenes of glory,

But a humble gift of love—Jesus born of Mary.  
Sounds of wonder fill the sky  
With the songs of angels As the mighty Prince of Life  
Shelters in a stable. Hands that set each star in place,  
Shaped the earth in darkness,  
Cling now to a mother’s breast,  
Vuln’rable and helpless.

Shepherds bow before the Lamb, Gazing at the glory;  
Gifts of men from distant lands prophesy the story.  
Gold—a King is born today,  
Incense—God is with us, Myrrh—His death will make a  
way, And by His blood He’ll win us.

Son of Adam, Son of heaven, Given as a ransom;  
Reconciling God and man,  
Christ, our mighty champion!

What a Savior! What a Friend!  
What a glorious myst'ry! Once a babe in Bethlehem,  
Now the Lord of hist'ry.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo. Gloria, in excelsis deo.

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the  
plains and the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strain.

Shepherds why this jubilee, why your joyous strains  
prolong. What the gladsome tidings be,  
Which inspire your Heavenly song.

Come to Bethlehem and see, He whose birth the angels  
sing. Come, adore on bended knee,  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria, in excelsis deo.

### **Affirmation of Faith:** The Apostles' 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 Ghost, 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 sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Gloria Patri:**

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.

**Unison Reading:** Jeremiah 31:15-17

“Thus says the Lord: A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more. Thus says the Lord: Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears, for there is a reward for your work, declares the Lord, and they shall come back from the land of the enemy. There is hope for your future, declares the Lord, and your children shall come back to their own country.”

**Pastoral Prayer and 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, forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

**Anthem:** Breath of Heaven**Sermon:** “Killing of the Innocents” Randy Jenkins**Scripture:** Matthew 2:13-18

13 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, Rise, take the child and his mother, and

flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him. 14 And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt 15 and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, Out of Egypt I called my son. 16 Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. 17 Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: 18 A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”

**Hymn: Infant Holy, Infant Lowly**

Infant holy, Infant lowly, For His bed a cattle stall;  
Oxen lowing, Little knowing  
Christ, the Babe, is Lord of all. Swift are winging  
Angels singing, Noels ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ, the Babe, is Lord of all!  
Christ, the Babe, is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, Shepherds keeping,  
Vigil till the morning new  
Saw the glory, Heard the story, Tidings of a gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,  
Praises voicing Greet the morrow:  
Christ, the Babe, was born for you!  
Christ, the Babe, was born for you!

**Benediction/Response:**

**Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below,  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Amen!

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