With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## Offering

## Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

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

## Communion - The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you!

#### And also with you!

Lift up your hearts.

#### We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

### Prayers of the People

#### 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.

## Bearing and Following the Word into the World

Closing Hymn "What Child Is This?" #95

Benediction

Postlude 8:30 am "Come, O Savior of the World" Paxton 11:00 am "What Star Is This?" Ritter

(Leading in Today's Service and Announcements, see insert.)







Second Sunday of Advent December 5, 2021

## Gathering Around the Word

Prelude 8:30 "Good King Wenceslas" & "What Child Is This?" arr. Smith 11:00 "O Come. O Come. Emmanuel" arr. Smith

Welcome

Advent Candle Lighting
8:30 am Amy, Sadie, & Maggie Miller; Bruce & Bonnie McCloskey
11:00 am Karen Kremkau and Beth McDaniels

Call to Worship

From the flurry of holiday busyness,

We come longing for peace,

Yearning for lasting joy,

Hoping to find our rest in God.

From full calendars and hectic schedules,

We come to taste the Bread of Life,

Drink the cup of blessing,

Sing the songs of Advent hope.

From the worry of our days,

We come to be set free,

Be made new,

Follow the Prince of Peace, the joy of every longing heart.

Songs of Praise "On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry" Coffin, et al.

"Lord, I Need You" Nockels, et al.

"Jesus Loves Me, This I Know" Warner, et al.

### **Prayer of Confession**

Loving and faithful God, as we begin the season of Advent, we celebrate that Jesus has come, and that he promises to come again! Jesus came to bring light and hope, but our hearts are often shrouded by darkness and despair. Jesus came to bring joy and peace, but our hearts can become wrapped in sorrow and turmoil. We now open our hearts in confession to be cleansed from our sinfulness and to be restored to the image of Jesus. Thank you, God, for loving us and giving us your Son, that we might not perish but have eternal life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

## Assurance of Forgiveness

In Jesus' name, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

## Passing of the Peace

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

#### And also with you.

Please greet one another with the peace of Christ.

# Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading Malachi 3:1-4 Paul Stutesman

Time for Young Disciples Pastor Matt

Scripture Reading Luke 1:68-79

Sermon "The Tender Mercy of God" Pastor Matt

# Responding to the Word

Hymn of Response "Once in Royal David's City" #87

Affirmation of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"