

November 29, 2020 10:00 AM
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

PRELUDE

Improvisation on "People Look East"

Lasky

GATHERING MUSIC HE REIGNS (P. Furler, S. Taylor)

It's the song of the redeemed rising from the African plain. It's the song of the forgiven drowning out the Amazon rain. The song of Asian believers filled with God's holy fire. It's ev'ry tribe, ev'ry tongue, ev'ry nation; a love song born of grateful choir.

*Chorus: It's all God's children singing "Glory, glory, hallelujah! He reigns, He reigns!"
It's all God's children singing, "Glory, glory, hallelujah! He reigns, He reigns."*

Let it rise above the four winds, caught up in the heavenly sound. Let praises echo from the towers of cathedrals to the faithful gathered underground. Of all the songs sung from dawn of creation, some were meant to persist. Of all the bells rung from a thousand steeples, none rings truer than this: (Chorus)

And all the powers of darkness tremble at what they've just heard,
'cause all the powers of darkness can't drown out a single word. (Chorus)
(*WorshipTogether.com*)

SEEK FIRST (Matt. 6:33) (by Amy Grant & Wes King) (1992 Age to Age Music)

Chorus: Seek first the kingdom of Heaven and all shall be added.

Seek first the kingdom of Heaven and all shall be added.

Verse: They say we need money and power. They say there's no God up above.

Don't they know our Friend in high places? Nothing can be stronger than love. *Chorus*

WELCOME

Pastor Tom Korkuch

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We enter this season of Advent, and our hearts echo the church's plea.
Come, Lord Jesus.

**People: Come into these days too filled and hours too hurried and be our peace.
Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: Come into this troubled and hurting world and be our hope.
Come, Lord Jesus.

**People: Come into this season of light and be our soul's true light.
Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: Come into this time of celebration and be our joy.
Come, Lord Jesus.

People: Come into our lives and be life for us, now and forevermore.

Leader: Come and be Emmanuel – God with us.

People: God for us. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

SONG O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL (Verse 1)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. (©1989 United Methodist Pub. House)

***OPENING PRAYER (in unison)**

Gracious God, Light of the World, you caused light to shine out of the darkness in the advent of Jesus Christ; you continually open to us the ways we are to prepare. We confess our unwillingness to see the light and to walk in your ways. We have not always opened our eyes to the needs of others, and our feet have wandered from the paths of justice and peace. We ask that the Spirit of Christ be born anew within us, that our hearts may be stirred to glorify the nativity with acts of compassion and service. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor HeyYoung Horton

THE LORD'S PRAYER

MUSIC MINISTRY LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES (by Georg Weiszel)

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold, the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here!

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

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.

Thy Holy Spirit lead us on until our glorious goal is won;
eternal praise, eternal fame be offered, Savior, to thy name! (Public Domain)

EMMANUEL (by Chris Tomlin & Ed Cash) (2009 *Worshiptogether.com*)

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.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, God incarnate, here to dwell. Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
praise His name, Emmanuel. Emmanuel, praise His name, Emmanuel.

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—² [a] as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!³ When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.⁴ From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.⁵ You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. [b]⁶ We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.⁷ There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered [c] us into the hand of our iniquity.⁸ Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.⁹ Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

SERMON

“Incarnation: The Great ‘Nevertheless’ of our Faith”

Pastor Tom Korkuch

CLOSING MUSIC HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED (by James Montgomery)

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.
Before him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go,
and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.
To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever; that name to us is love. (Public Domain)

COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS (Charles Wesley)

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 for ever, 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. (Public Domain)

BENEDICTION

SENDING MUSIC DAYS OF ELIJAH (by Robin Mark) (1996 Daybreak Music Ltd.)

These are the days of Elijah, declaring the Word of the Lord; And these are the days of Your servant, Moses, righteousness being restored; And though these are days of great trials, of famine and darkness

and sword; Still we are the voice in the desert crying, "Prepare ye the way of the Lord."

Chorus: Behold He comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet call; so lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee, and out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

And these are the days of Ezekiel, the dry bones becoming as flesh; and these are the days of Your servant, David, rebuilding a temple of praise; and these are the days of the harvest, the fields are white in the world; and we are Your laborers in Your vineyard, declaring the Word of the Lord.

(Chorus)

PRAYER CONCERNS: Anne Grogan (daughter of Dee Dee Langshaw), Audrey Cutone (mother of Jay Taylor), Barbara Engelbrecht, Doug Nemeth (son of Dot & Zollie Nemeth), John Chwastyk (husband of Kim), Mary Raroha, Gloria-Jean Opperman, John & Catharine Carty, Pati Anne Feeley (daughter-in-law of Jan & Jack Feeley), Barbara Dapper, Nancy Gager (Paul Gager's sister), Peg Fagan (mother of Therese Shire, Pre-School Teacher), Emmy Cahilly (11 yr. old niece of Shelly & Greg Kinkaid), Madison Luyber and her parents, Julie and Tony (friends of the Bewleys), Louise McMeans, Dan LaFon.

PRAYERS & SYMPATHY TO: Tom Lee and family on the death of his father.