

Advent 1 2021 - November 27, 2021

Responses of the people are indicated in ***bold/italics***.

Welcome and announcements:

Opening Song: #338, Advent Gathering Song

Text and Tune: James Chepponis, 1995 GIA

Solo cantor: Come, come Emmanuel, come Emmanuel

All: Come, come Emmanuel, Come Emmanuel. (repeat x5)

Solo cantor: For the lord of Creation will...

Oh, the son of Mary will....

See God's marvelous deeds and....

For God chose us, and so we will....

Teri: Let us begin as one expression of God's people.

+ Father, Son, Holy Spirit. ***Amen.***

Teri: May the Love of God, the peace of our brother Jesus, and the communion and friendship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ALL: And also with you. (Adlib.....)

Penitential Rite:

Teri: Let us turn to God in this Advent Season with expectation and hope.

God, you are and ever shall be, Lord have mercy. ***Lord have mercy.***

Christ, the world waited for your new arrival. Christ have mercy. ***Christ have mercy.***

Spirit, you help prepare the mangers of our souls. Lord have mercy. ***Lord have mercy.***

May our Loving God have mercy on us, forgive our sins, share healing grace and light, and lead us all to everlasting life. ***Amen.***

Opening Prayer:

Teri: Let us pray.....

God, Emmanuel, we wait in joyful hope to celebrate your new presence among us. Let us prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus by remembering all of the children who are born to us somewhere in the world every day deserving a world of peace. May we anticipate a new becoming with you. May you light our way, O God. We ask this in Jesus' name, **Amen.**

First Reading: - Rosie

A Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah. (33:14-16)

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

This has been a Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

Thanks be to God.

Poem in Two Voices: (Teri, and Tim off camera representing all voices.)

Teri: You may remain seated as we read the poem "New Life There" by Adam King, adapted.

Poem: New Life There, by Andrew King © 2014 (adapted)

Teri: From the fig tree learn this lesson:
budding leaves say summer's near,
sign of joy in time of dryness,
sign of hope in time of fear.

Tim: Tree of joy bloom in our sorrow,

*tree of hope bloom in despair,
tree of peace bloom from tomorrow;
show us that there's new life there.*

Teri: Show us those who wait for justice
will not have to wait in vain.
Show the hungering and thirsting
they will find release from pain.

*Tim: Word of joy speak in our sorrow,
word of hope speak in despair,
word of peace speak from tomorrow;
point us to the new life there.*

Teri: Help us stay awake and watching
till the weary night is o'er.
Help us be alert and faithful
to the One who's at the door.

*Tim: God of joy break through our sorrow,
God of hope break through despair,
God of peace come from tomorrow;
lead us to the new life there.*

Teri: Help us God in our becoming,
As Communion we become;
New life workers with Your Gospel.
Birthing God, in you we all are one.
Amen.

Second Reading: - Rosie

A Reading from 1st Thessalonians.

Brothers and sisters: may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. Finally, brothers and sisters, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus that, as you learned from us how you ought to live and to please God, as, in fact, you are doing, you should do so more and more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

This has been a reading from 1st Thessalonians.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel: - Teri

Teri: Alleluia, Alleluia. ***Alleluia, Alleluia.***

Teri: May the birthing Christ be with you all. ***And also with you.***

Teri: A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to You, O God.

Jesus spoke to his disciples: "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near. Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

This has been a Reading from the Gospel of Luke.

Praise to You, Lord, Jesus the Christ.

Homily:

__Introduction of our 2021/2022 Lectionary theme:

Be coming. Be Communion.

Felt people.

Poem.

Prayers of the People: - Rosie

Our Response today is: God, guide us. (**God, guide us.**)

For all Church and world leaders, that they may be vigilant in their watch for God and respond as God is urging them, we pray: **God, guide us.**

For those who struggle with the anxieties of daily life, that they may find comfort in God through family, friends, prayer, and other healthy expressions. We pray: **God, guide us.**

For our planet, that we may respect it with a sense of wisdom and love and with God's guidance. We pray: **God, guide us.**

For all who are gathered here today, that we may experience a strong sense of God Who always has been, Who always is, and Who always will be. We pray: **God, guide us.**

For those who are sick and in need of healing, (especially _____.) May they be open to God's generosity on their journey and know God's healing and grace. We pray: **God, guide us.**

For those who have died, (especially _____) May they forever enjoy the gaze of God's love. We pray: **God, guide us.**

Now, Fr. Teri will lead us in the prayers that have been typed in the comments.....(PAUSE....)

For these and for all the prayers we share through our hearts, we pray: **God, guide us.**

In addition, we want to remind you that at Light of Christ, there is a Prayer Companion Team of pastoral care givers. They welcome and invite you, in confidence, to share your concerns in more detail or depth or to pray for you when you can't find the words. You can email them at prayercompanionteam@lightofchristecc.org, and one of them will reach out to you.

(Presider will finish the prayers.)

Sign of Peace:

Offertory:

Introduction of Stewardship Time and Talent Pledging. - Pam.

Teri: Blessed are you, Loving God of all Creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to place on your table. They represent our entire lives. May they be-come the Light of Christ in your world. **Blessed by God forever.**

Teri: Blessed are you, Loving God of all Creation, through your goodness we have this bread and this wine to place on your table. Work of earth and human hands. May it be-come our spiritual food and drink. **Blessed be God forever.**

Teri: Wash away my iniquity, cleanse me from my sin.

Teri: Pray my sisters and brothers, my family, that these our gifts, our lives may continue to be blessed by our Loving God.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at our hands, for the praise and glory of God's name, for our good and the good of all God's world.

Teri: The peace of our God be with you all. ***And also with you.***

Teri: Open your hearts. ***We open them to our God.***

Teri: Let us give thanks to our Loving God. ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

Teri:

We thank you, God, for this good Earth, with all of its many diverse peoples and elements. We thank you for the four directions, each holding its own wisdom. As we look to the east and the west, the north and the south and contemplate your Spirit blowing throughout creation, let us cherish the peoples and creatures, the landscape and the waters and the atmosphere of this rich planet. Let us imagine peace in every corner of your Creation.

Creative God, breath of all life through whom all things are created and sustained; all sons and daughters and children, flocks and herds, all birds of the air and fish of the sea. You walked this earth as child and Creator. You touched the soil, quenched your thirst, embraced this world, brought life and light and peace, love and laughter into shadowed and death-filled lives. Creative God, breath of all life through whom all things are created and sustained, we delight in You. Now with all of creation, with the angels and shepherds, and all the holy ones who have passed the thin veil before us, we are glad to sing of your glory.

Holy, Holy, Holy One, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Holy One, Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Teri: God, Emmanuel,

You are most Holy. Send your Holy Spirit upon us, and what we do here gathered at tables throughout your world knowing that all tables are Your

Table. May we be touched by your Spirit, to be signs of love and peace to one another, and to the world. + Let also your Spirit come upon these gifts of bread and wine to make them holy so that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our brother, Jesus the Christ.

Today, we gather to remember that on the night before he died, Jesus ate with his followers and his friends. We recall how he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, he broke it, and gave it to them saying - **"Take this all of you and eat it. This is my body which will be given up for you."**

That same night, Jesus also took the cup filled with wine, and after giving thanks, passed it to his disciples, saying, **"Take this all of you and drink from it. This is the cup of my blood. The blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me. "**

Teri: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.....

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Teri:

For the desert places in which we walk, the streets we roam, the paths we cross: guide our feet, God. Take us to places where you would go. Give us words that you would use. May we wage peace where-ever we go. Encourage us to give a thoughtful "yes", that in this Advent season of promise and preparation we might be peace bearers, peace makers, in your world.

God we remember in our prayers our chosen shepherds, especially Bishop Kae, Bishop Francis, and Bishop Denise. May they know you working in their lives into their new becoming in this season of waiting.

God, we are confident that you remember our ancestors who have gone to their rest, and now rest in your eternal embrace. May we one day join them, living into the fullness of the communion of saints and the eternal love that is you.

(Lift elements)

Teri: Circle us God with the light of your presence as together we say:
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours all loving God, forever and ever.

LORD'S PRAYER

Teri: Let us hold hands, a symbol of how God is circling the world right now, and pray together in the words that have been prayed with Jesus for centuries:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil... For thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory now and forever. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

***Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.***

Teri: This is the Living God, the Body and Blood of Christ. This is the one who transforms the world. This is the one who transforms us. Blessed are we who are called to this meal.

God, I am ready to receive you. Because by your invitation, I am here.

(Invitation to Communion)

Communion Song: We are One Body

Text and Tune by Dana Scallon, 1981, 2005

We are one body, one body in Christ;
and we do not stand alone.

We are one body, one body in Christ;
and he came that we might have life.

I will live in you and you will live in my love.
When you eat my body and you drink my blood,
I will live in you and you will live in my love.

Will you feed my hungry, will you help my lame?
See the unborn baby, the forgotten one,
they are not forsaken, they are not unloved.

I am the Way, the Truth, the Life;
he who believes in me will have eternal life.
I am the Way, the Truth, the Life, I am the Final Sacrifice,
I am the Way, the Truth, the Life;
he who believes in me will have eternal life. (to 4)

through the tears and sorrow, through the toils and strife.
Listen when I call you, for I know your need,
come to me, your shepherd, for my flock I feed.

Jesus is the Lord and he will come again.
At the name of Jesus ev'ry knee shall bend;
Jesus is the Lord and he will come again.

Come receive my spirit, with my gifts be filled.
For you are my body, you're my hands and feet.
Speak my word of life to ev'ryone you meet.

Prayer after Communion:

Teri: Let us pray...

God of Peace, you fill the hungry with good things. In this Eucharist you have filled us with the word and the bread of life. Make us hunger now for Christ's new coming in the hearts and the homes of all. We welcome that

coming as we be-come one with this Christ. We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

Teri: The Love of God be with you.
And also with you.

Teri: Please open your hearts, as we ask for God's blessing.

May God's story of peace be born in us, and may we be-come peace. May we welcome diversity as we are united in Christ. We ask for this blessing now, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Teri: We are the Light of Christ. Let us go forth as such, loving and serving God as we get to love and serve in God's world.

Thanks be to God.

Closing Song: #323, O Come O Come Emmanuel

Text: Veni, veni Emmanuel; Latin 9th C. tr. by John Neale Tune: VENI VENI EMMANUEL, LM with refrain.
Acc. by Richard Proulx, 1975 GIA.

V1: 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 you, O Israel!

V2: 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.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!