

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 29, 2009 ❖ 10:30 AM ❖ The First Sunday of Advent

Reflections for the First Sunday of Advent

ADVENT means arrival or coming. In ancient times when a ruler of a province or city made a ceremonial entrance, it was known as his "advent." During the next four weeks, we remember and celebrate four different ways Jesus comes in his advent: his coming as a baby in Bethlehem, his coming personally into our hearts and lives, his coming again someday in the future to take his church to Glory, and his coming anew into our homes and church during this Christmas of 2009.

To help us mark the Sundays of Advent, we light an Advent wreath. This wreath is rich in symbols that help us to remember the great wonders of Christmas. It is a symbol of our Advent waiting as we light only one candle per week. Three of these candles are purple, symbolizing our preparation through repentance. The fourth candle is rose-colored, symbolizing joy. The fifth and center candle is white, symbolizing the pure and holy Baby Jesus, and we will light it on Christmas Eve.

The candles also represent and are given four names that summarize the meaning of Christmas: **Hope, Love, Peace, and Joy.**

Thoughts for Worship Preparation

For if many died through one man's [Adam's] trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. Romans 5:15

We cannot point the finger at Adam in self-righteous innocence, for we share in his guilt. And it is because we sinned in Adam that we die today. John Stott

The relation of Christ to his people is that of a legal advocate to his client. The former personates the latter; he puts himself in his client's place. It is, while it lasts, the most intimate relation. The client may not even appear in court. He is not heard. He is not regarded. He is lost in his advocate, who for the time being is his representative... He, not we, is seen, heard, and regarded.

Charles Hodge

So then, whether we are condemned or justified, whether we are spiritually alive or dead, depends on which humanity we belong to – whether we still belong to the old humanity initiated by Adam, or to the new humanity initiated by Christ. John Stott

They lose nothing who gain Christ.

Pastoral Welcome

Samuel Rutherford
The Rev. John R. McCracken

Prelude

Dank sei Dir, Herr, "Thanks Be to Thee" attributed to G.F. Handel
Douglass McFarland, organist

Choral Introit

"A Flickering Candle"

Stephen P. Folkemer

A flickering candle sheds its light in hope of dawn's victorious might, and backward scurries cowardly night, reminded of the morning. Watch, watch, for Christ is near, the promised Son of God most dear. Hope, hope, his light will clear the shades of death and sin.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Baylee and Maddie Wichlan

Call to Worship

Mr. McCracken

from Romans 13:11-12

Minister: You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep.
Isaiah 52:7

People: For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.

Minister: The night is far gone; the day is at hand.

People: So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

(Singing)

GREENSLEEVES

From Jesse's barren stump will spring a noble branch, a righteous King;
To earth's despairing lands he'll bring both justice and salvation.
Watch, watch for Christ is near, the promised Son of God most dear.
Hope, hope, his light will clear the shades of death and sin.

*Hymns of Adoration, No. 196

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

HYFRYDOL

Prayer of Adoration

The Rev. Michael G. Wichlan

*The Lord's Prayer



1. Our Fa - ther, Lord on heav'ns high throne, Most ho - ly be_Your name. Your
2. Yours is the king - dom; un - to You in grate - ful love_ we bow. And



King - dom come_ your will be done, on earth-- in heav - en the same. Give
Yours the pow - er Lord, let us view Your migh - ty pres - ence now. The



us this day_ the food we need; for - gi - ven may_ we be: In -
glo - ry Yours;_ Your praise be sung by an - gel hosts_ and men_ in



to temp - ta - tion do not lead; from e - vil set_ us free.
ev - ery land_ by ev - ery tongue for - ev - er more.. A - men!

Public Confession of Sin

Mr. Steve Parks, *Ruling Elder*

Almighty God, you who shaped out of nothing all that is, forgive us for returning empty-handed. You who called forth light, forgive our preference for the dark. You who sent John to be a voice crying in our wilderness, forgive our unwillingness to say anything at all. Lord, you came to us in the fullness of time. Forgive us for not opening our eyes to your coming. Forgive us according to your tender mercies, O God. Amen.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Pardon

Psalm 89:9-13

Elder: *Hear these comforting words of truth for those who truly repent of their sins and trust in Christ:*

“Surely God’s salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land. Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other. Righteousness will go before him and make a path for his steps. “

My friends, I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God!

Song of Thanksgiving

Amazing Grace

ST. LOUIS

Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me,
I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.
Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved,
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

*Affirmation of Faith

Galatians 4:3-5; Ephesians 1:7-10

The Rev. Patrick Poteet

Q. How does the first advent of Christ to earth demonstrate the rich grace of God?

A. We were children, enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. In Him, we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight, making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

Hymn of Praise

"Fullness of Grace"

Getty-Townend



1. Full - ness of grace in man's hu - man fra - il - ty, this is the won - der of Je - sus.
2. Full - ness of grace, the love of the Fa - ther shown in the face of Je - sus.
3. Full - ness of hope in Christ we had longed for, prom - ise of God in Je - sus,



Lay - ing a - side His po - wer and glo - ry, hum - bly he en - tered our world.
 Stoop - ing to bear the weight of hu - man - i - ty walk - ing the Cal - va - ry road.
 Through His o - be - dience we are for - giv - en open - ing the flood - gates of heav'n.



Chose the path of mean - est worth: scan - dal of a vir - gin birth.
 Christ the ho - ly in - no - cent, took our sin and pun - ish - ment.
 All our hopes and dreams we bring glad - ly as an off - er - ing.



Born in a sta - ble, cold and re - ject - ed: here lies the hope of the world.
 Full - ness of God, de - spised and re - ject - ed; Crushed for the sins of the world.
 Full - ness of life and joy un - speak - a - ble; God's gift in love to the world.

Prayers for Christ's Church and the World

Mr. Parks

The Collection of Tithes and Offerings

The Musical Offering

"The King Shall Come"

Robert A Hobby

Trinity Choir, Dave Leeman, director

The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks, when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes. Not as of old a little child, to bear and fight and die, but crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky. The King shall come when morning dawns and earth's dark night is past; O haste the rising of that morn, the day that e'er shall last; and let the endless bliss begin, by weary saints foretold, when right shall triumph over wrong, and truth shall be extolled. Come, quickly King of kings. The King shall come when morning dawns and light and beauty brings. Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray: Come quickly, King of kings.

The Offering Consecration

Mr. Poteet

*The Doxology

DUKE STREET

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.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Sara Baugh

Mr. Poteet

The Passing of the Peace

Minister: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*Service of Friendship

Mr. Wichlan

Children between the ages of 4 through 1st grade may now be dismissed for Celebration Chapel, Room 101. At this time, please locate the black Friendship pad at the left end of your row, fill it out and pass it back to the beginning of the row.

*Prayer for Illumination

Mr. McCracken

*Scripture Reading

Romans 5:12-21
Pew Bibles, pg 942

The Morning Sermon "Adam, Jesus and the Strength of Grace"

*Hymn of Response, No. 465 "Marvelous Grace of Our Loving Lord"

MOODY

Stanzas 1 & 3

*The Charge and Benediction

Mr. McCracken

Minister: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world. Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion!

Isaiah 12:4-6

People: **With God's help, we will.**

Minister: The Lord longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! Amen. *Isaiah 30:18*

People: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Organ Postlude *Nun Danket Alle Gott, "Now Thank We All Our God"* *Sigfried Karg-Elert* Douglass McFarland, organist

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**All in the congregation, who are able, please stand.*