

CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

*BENEDICTION

Pastor: Practice love!

People: In thought, action, and emotion.

Pastor: Practice love!

People: With disciplines that facilitate transformation.

Pastor: Practice love!

People: With behaviors that heal relationships.

Pastor: Practice love!

People: With respect for the brokenness of self and others.

Pastor: Practice love!

People: By nurturing children and cherishing the elderly.

Pastor: Practice love!

People: By living into truthfulness.

Pastor: Practice love!

People: By fearlessly being Christ in the world.

Pastor: Practice love!

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“The First Noel”

No. 245 (Refrain)

Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

*RECESSIONAL HYMN

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel”

No. 204 (sing twice)

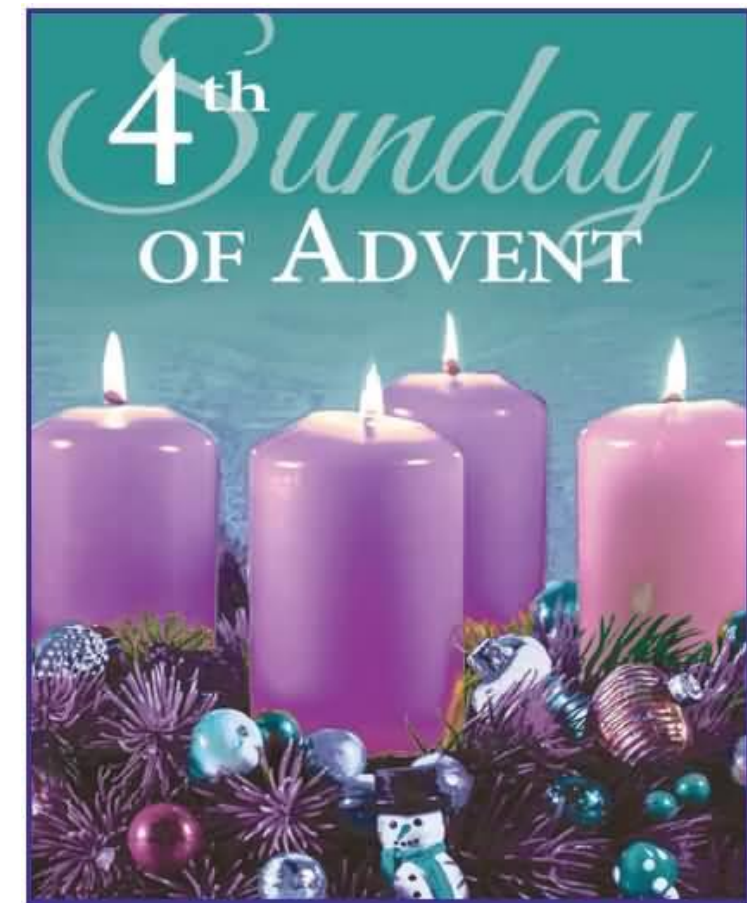
*Em-man-u-el, Em-man-u-el,
His name is called Em-man-u-el.
God with us, revealed in us,
His name is called Em-man-u-el.*

*POSTLUDE

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

arr. Mark Hayes

WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD!



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**DECEMBER 19, 2021
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Welcome Visitors: We are pleased you have chosen to worship with us today. If you have questions concerning the service, please feel free to ask an usher or a person sitting near you. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us. Large Print Bulletins: We have bulletins in LARGE print available. Please ask an usher for one. May God bless your experience in worship with us today. We are here to serve, so please let us know how we might better serve you.

ORDER OF WORSHIP – 10:30 AM

CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “Sing We Now of Christmas” Brant Adams
(As the prelude begins, you are invited to center yourself for worship)

CHIMES AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN “O Come, All Ye Faithful” No. 234, vs. 1, 2, 3 & 4

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: All through this season of Advent, we have encountered Hope, Peace and Joy.
People: Today, Belief and Love are the themes.
Pastor: Today, we will hear the story of surprising commitment.
People: We will learn of Mary and God’s wonderful love.
Pastor: Today, we will be challenged to believe in all that God can do.
People: Open our hears, Lord, that we may be ready for your love. AMEN.

OPENING PRAYER

Lord, be with us this morning as we encounter Mary and hear of the wondrous news that she received. Remind us that, like Mary, each one of us is a bearer of your Good News. We are called to proclaim hope, peace, joy, and love in your name. Open our hearts and our spirits today to receive with great joy the love that you have for us. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

INTROIT ”Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” No. 240

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY (The Candle of Love)

Pastor: Love in the midst of rejection---Everyone has felt rejection at one point in their lives.
People: Many feel it all too often because they feel they don’t “fit in” to someone’s view of a perfect person.
Pastor: The message that this newborn Jesus would bring to the world was the unconditional love of God.
People: In a world where so many are feeling rejected, we call upon El Shaddai, God Almighty, to come.

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE

HYMN (Tune: “Away in a Manger”) Ann Freeman Price, No. 217
*Light four Advent candles and feel all around
The love that is growing and soon will surround.
Light four Advent candles and wait for the morn
When new birth will happen and light will be born.*

Pastor: Take a deep breath and reflect on those who feel left out or rejected. (Silence)

PRAYER
Dear God, we pray that our faith may be renewed once again, and may we relive the wonder of your love in our lives. In the name of Jesus the Christ we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING
In response to the news that she would bear God’s Son, Mary offered herself as God’s servant, and then sang a song celebrating her selection to help bring God’s realm on earth. We have been chosen to continue to build up the kingdom of God, so we, too, have reason to celebrate. Having praised God through song and scripture, let us now offer our tangible signs of gratitude, confident that God’s promises will be fulfilled through the ministries supported by our gifts.

THE LORD’S OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY To the Tune “What Child Is This?”
*“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.*

*OFFERTORY PRAYER
Holy and Mighty God, you blessed Mary by making her the mother of your only Son, Jesus Christ. You have blessed us, as well, with the gift of your Son, and indeed, with the gift of life itself. Out of all these blessings, we give you back these offerings this day. Knowing that your promises will be fulfilled, we pledge our lives to you in anticipation of the coming of the one who loves us unconditionally. Amen.

CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

CANTATA

The Cantata “Have You Heard?” Joel Raney
*Christmas Day in the Morning
Come Messiah, Come Emmanuel
Have You Heard?
Celtic Christmas Lullaby
O Little Town of Bethlehem
O Holy Night
Come and Adore Him
Wexford Carol/Finale*