

*We invite, encourage, educate and empower
all people to follow God and serve others.”*

1st Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017

Welcome to worship where we celebrate together as the family of God the coming of his Son for our salvation. Each week as part of our Together in Advent series we will focus on a different activity for our “to-do list”. The theme for this service is Be Present. Instead of spending all our time in Advent buying presents, we in God’s family set aside space to be present for one another, as Christ is coming to be present with us. Let the hymns, prayers, Scripture readings, children’s message and sermon in this worship service make the presence of Christ known to you this day.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We begin this season, focusing on our Lord's coming, by lighting a candle of hope—hope found in Jesus Christ alone.

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all people.

This hope teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.

While we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,

Who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people who are his very own, eager to do what is good.

O Lord, enter our hearts and join our voices with those of all the saints as we confess our sins.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Lord,

we come before you in prayer today, asking for forgiveness.

We have not loved as we ought to love, we have not given as we ought to give, and we have fallen short of the mark of truly being your obedient sons and daughters. We recognize our sins and in this moment of silence, we privately remember our shortcomings in love and life.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

God, our heavenly Father, hears the prayers of his children and answers those prayers. Our prayer for forgiveness is answered in the person of Jesus Christ, his Son, who died for our sin that we might have new life in him. To those who believe his Word of truth he gives power to be the people of God. Praise God for his gift of love to us.

Amen

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OPENING HYMN “Prepare the Royal Highway” #264

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord Jesus Christ, you came to earth to be present with us. But so often we spend more of our time in Advent buying presents than being present with you.

Help us to put the buying presents in perspective this season, and open our eyes to new ways to spend time with you in prayer and reflection. Free us to set aside space in our schedules as a family of God to be together in worship and Bible study and devotion, remembering all the while that you once told us wherever two or three are gathering in your name, there you are in the midst of us. Be present, Lord, today and every day. Amen.

WELCOME THE CHILDREN “He Came Down” Tune #253

**He came down that we may have hope;
He came down that we may have hope;
He came down that we may have hope;
Hallelujah forevermore.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

**He came down that we may be present;
He came down that we may be present;
He came down that we may be present;
Hallelujah forevermore.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Malachi 3:1-7

“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. Then

the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts. For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:35-42

The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas” (which means Peter).

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON “*From Buying Presents to Being Present*”

HYMN OF THE DAY “*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*” #257
vs 1,2,4,7

HOLY BAPTISM

Jayden Rose Carrier

APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again;

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father,

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Our Lord Emmanuel, Be present with us now.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *“We Give Thee but Thine Own”* #686 vs 1

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD’S PRAYER

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN *“Hark, the Glad Sound!”* #239 vs 1-4

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERVING TODAY:

Greeters – Jim and Nancy Shultes

Usher – Jim Shultes

Reader – Nancy Shultes

Music – Peg Tesch and Conni Virtue

Communion Preparation/ Assistant – Nancy Shultes

Fellowship Servers – Nancy Shultes and Joy Neugebauer



SERVING NEXT SUNDAY:

Greeters/Ushers – Stan & Joy Neugebauer

Music –

Reader –

Fellow –



WELCOME to our worship service

If you would like to be added to our church mailing list or have other information you would like us to know, please fill out an information card located with the hymnals.

Today, December 3

9:30 Worship/Communion

Fellowship follows

Tuesday, December 5

7:00am 8:30am or 5:30pm Advent Bible Study – “Send Peace”

Wednesday, December 6

5:15-7 D.O.G. Night

Saturday, December 9

5:00-8:00pm Holiday Child Care provided by OSL Community Youth Group *dinner/activities provided for children

Sunday, December 10

8:15am-2:00pm 2nd Sunday Brunch

9:30 Worship - Second Sunday of Advent

12:00pm-2:00pm “An Afternoon in Bethlehem” Event



Praying for one another is vital to our community of faith and part of being a member of the priesthood of all believers. If you or a family member wishes to be included in this printed prayer list, please contact Josie in the church office.



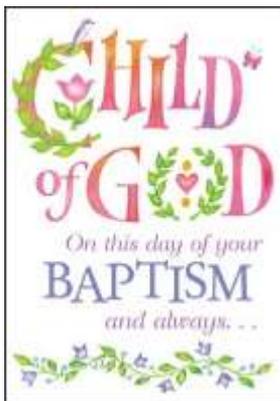
We pray for the comfort and strength for those who have recently lost loved ones, especially the friends and family of **Anne** (Adare's sister.)



We pray for the health and healing of those ill or hospitalized and their caregivers, including ...



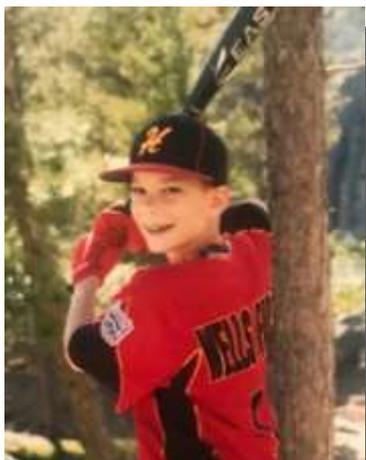
We pray for those with ongoing concerns:, **Talon Gibson** (Tenaya Gibson's son), **Kelly Edwards**, **Heidi** (Hunsaker's niece), and **Beverly Conrad** (Peg's sister).



A very special congratulations to Jayden Rose Carrier on her baptism. Her parents are LeAnn Maude and the late Aaron Carrier. Her sponsors are Lori Maude, Marvin and Mae Maude, and Justin Kursave. May God bless you always Jayden.

TALON GIBSON

MISSION of the Month



Talon Gibson, a 12 year old from Hermosa, has recently been diagnosed with Neurological Lyme Disease. Talon's symptoms have become so debilitating that he can no longer attend school or participate in sports. There is currently no cure for Lyme. Treatment to keep infection at bay is extremely expensive, and insurance will not cover most of the treatments. Our Mission of the Month for December will help with the expenses, estimated to be well over \$200,000, to allow Talon to continue receiving treatments. (Please write checks to Our Savior's with "Mission" in the memo line.)

To read more about the disease, and see updates on Talon's journey, go to: gofundme.com/talongibson.



Introducing....