
Order of Worship
2017

December 10,

Reflection

For whatever reason God chose to let us fall... to suffer, to be subject to sorrows and death— he has nonetheless had the honesty and courage to take his own medicine...He can exact nothing from man that He has not exacted from Himself. He himself has gone through the whole of human experience, from the trivial irritations of family life and the cramping restrictions of hard work and lack of money to the worst horrors of pain and humiliation, defeat, despair and death... He was born in poverty and suffered infinite pain—all for us— and thought it well worth his while.

-Dorothy Sayers

Prelude

As worship begins, please silence your electronic devices.

Call To Worship

Luke 2

Leader: Fear not, for behold I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is

born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

People: And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.

Leader: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!

Song

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

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 saints 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 forever,
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.

Prayer of Adoration

Almighty God, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ promised to come again to receive his people unto himself; keep us ever watchful for his glorious appearing. Help us to set our affections on things above, and to live as those who wait for their Lord, that when he appears we may be made like him, and see him as he is. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Bethlehem Candle

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Reader: We light the second candle of Advent, the Bethlehem Candle. We light these candles to remind us that Jesus is the Light of the world. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

All: Thanks be to God!

Doxology

Old Hundredth

Praise God whose light fills all the earth
Whose love we see in Jesus' birth
Whose Spirit forms one family
Whose grace brings peace and harmony. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we have sinned against you and we have offended you. And yet, O Lord, as we acknowledge our sins and offenses, so also do we acknowledge you to be a merciful God, a loving and favorable Father, to all who turn to you. And so we humbly ask you, for the sake of Christ your Son, to show mercy to us, and forgive us all our offenses. By your Spirit, O God, take possession of our hearts, so that, not only the actions of our lives, but also the words of our mouths, and the smallest thoughts of our minds, may be guided and governed by you. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Private Confession

Song

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the law
In cloud and majesty and awe. (Refrain)

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;

From depths of hell thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave. (Refrain)

O come, thou Dayspring from on high
And cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. (Refrain)

O come, thou Key of David, come
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. (Refrain)

Words of Pardon and Comfort

Galatians

2:20

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Song

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

God rest ye merry gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas
day,

To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone
astray;

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heavenly Father, a blessed angel came;
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the
same:

How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by
name.

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.

"Fear not, then," said the angel, "let nothing you
affright;

This day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in him from Satan's pow'r
and might,"

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.

*(Children through Kindergarten are dismissed for
Children's Church; they will return for Communion.)*

Prayer of Intercession (Concluded by the Lord's Prayer)

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

High Desert Highlights

See Announcements on page 15

Offertory

Scripture

Galatians

4:8-20

8 Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods. 9 But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more? 10 You observe days and months and seasons and years! 11 I am afraid I may have labored over you in vain. 12 Brothers, I entreat you, become as I am, for I also have become as you are. You did me no wrong. 13 You know it was because of a bodily ailment that I preached the gospel to you at first, 14 and though my

condition was a trial to you, you did not scorn or despise me, but received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus. 15 What then has become of your blessedness? For I testify to you that, if possible, you would have gouged out your eyes and given them to me. 16 Have I then become your enemy by telling you the truth? 17 They make much of you, but for no good purpose. They want to shut you out, that you may make much of them. 18 It is always good to be made much of for a good purpose, and not only when I am present with you, 19 my little children, for whom I am again in the anguish of childbirth until Christ is formed in you! 20 I wish I could be present with you now and change my tone, for I am perplexed about you.

Sermon:

Dan Rose

Rev.

“The Heart of a Pastor”

Song:

Vision

Be Thou My

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son;

Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High king of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High king of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

This is a time for all people to seek the Lord. For Christians, the Lord's Supper (also called Communion or The Eucharist, which means 'thanksgiving') is a time to meet with their Savior by faith, to be strengthened and renewed by Him as they eat the bread and drink the elements. All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior and Lord, belong to a church that embraces the gospel, are at peace with their fellow neighbor, and seek strength and grace to live more faithfully to Christ, are invited to participate. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer (see Prayers on page 14) and to consider more deeply your relationship to Jesus Christ. We also ask that children who have not yet publicly professed their faith in Christ refrain from

partaking until doing so. Both wine (red) and grape juice (white) are offered in each serving tray.

Words of Institution

Memorial Acclamation

Minister: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again!

Minister: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion Song

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

Thou dost reign on high with a kingly crown,
Yet thou camest to earth for me,
And in Bethlehem's home was there found no room
For thy holy nativity:
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
There is room in my heart for thee.

Heaven's arches rang when the angels sang,
Proclaiming thy royal degree;
But of lowly birth didst thou come to earth,
And in great humility:
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
There is room in my heart for thee.

The foxes found rest, and the birds their nest,
In the shade of the forest tree;
But thy couch was the sod,
O thou Son of God, in the deserts of Galilee:
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
There is room in my heart for thee.

Thou camest, O Lord, with the living word
That should set thy people free;
But with mocking scorn, and with crown of thorn,
They bore thee to Calvary:
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
Thy cross is my only plea.

When heav'n's arches shall ring,
And her choirs shall sing,
At thy coming to victory,
Let thy voice call me home,
Saying, "Yet there is room,
There is room at my side for thee."
And my heart shall rejoice, Lord Jesus,
When thou comest and callest for me.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, Jesus is the center point of history, and his presence is our new beginning. Center our lives on your lavish grace that not only saves but renews us to be like Jesus. May

**our godly living be a fitting testimony of
thanksgiving that draws others to the joyful
reign of Christ the King. Amen.**

Song

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

Let us love and sing and wonder
Let us praise the Savior's name
He has hushed the law's loud thunder
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He has brought us nigh to God

Let us love the Lord Who bought us
Pitied us when enemies
Called us by His grace and taught us
Gave us ears and gave us eyes
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He presents our souls to God

Let us sing though fierce temptation

Threatens hard to bear us down
For the Lord, our strong salvation,
Holds in view the conqueror's crown
He, Who washed us with His blood,
He, Who washed us with His blood,
He, Who washed us with His blood,
Soon will bring us home to God

Let us wonder grace and justice
Join and point to mercy's store
When through grace in Christ our trust is
Justice smiles and asks no more
He, Who washed us with His blood,
He, Who washed us with His blood,
He, Who washed us with His blood,
Has secured our way to God

Let us praise and join the chorus
Of the saints enthroned on high
Here they trusted Him before us
Now their praises fill the sky
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood
Thou art worthy Lamb of God

Benediction

Postlude

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Prayers

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth: Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief: Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever

dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin: Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the Pioneer and Perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Prayer of Commitment: Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Announcements

We will gather for worship next Sunday at 10 am here at DRMS. Pastor Dan will continue our series in the book of Galatians.

Today we will gather at the Clarks' home following worship for our Christmas Party. Please bring a side or dessert to share.

“Holiday in a Box” gifts are due by Wednesday evening at the Roses’ home. Please contact Carrie for more information.

The last Women’s group of 2017 will be this Thursday evening. Please see Rachel Chang for more information.