

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO**

December 4, 2022, at 10:00am

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

GATHERING

PRESERVICE MUSIC

“Once in Royal David’s City”

“Creator of the Stars of Night”

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

“To a Maid Whose Name Was Mary”

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

“Soon and Very Soon” (December Hymn of the Month)

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF PRAYER REQUESTS

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

Jesus says: I am coming soon.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

As the Lord has promised, in days to come the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

(Light the first candle.)

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid,

the calf and the lion and the fatling will lie down together, and a little child shall lead them.

(Light the second candle.)

Let us walk in the light of the Lord. **Amen.**

CHIMES

(The pouring of water invites us to remember and to celebrate our baptism into the body of Christ.)

PRELUDE

“The First Noel” (Smith/Hustad)

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Please exchange these words with your neighbors: “The peace of the Lord be with you.” “And also with you.”

CALL TO WORSHIP

A voice cries in the wilderness,
“Prepare the way of the Lord; make God’s way clear.
**Lift up every valley; lower every mountain.
For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.”**
Let us worship God.

*OPENING HYMN #149

“All Hail to God’s Anointed” (Noble)

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Loving God, you sent your prophet John to prepare your way among us, to call us to repentance, and make our pathways straight as we await the Messiah’s return, that all may see your reign of peace through your just and gracious rule. **Amen.**

*GLORIA PATRI #581

“Glory Be to the Father” (Greatorex)

CALL TO CONFESSION

God does not want anyone to perish, but rather for all to come to repentance. Therefore, let us confess our sins, for God’s salvation is at hand.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Faithful God, we confess that we have not led lives of holiness. We suffer from impatience, apathy, and greed; we have not been at peace. We repent of these offenses and turn to you in love. Forgive our iniquity and pardon our sins, that we may walk in righteousness to the glory of your name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Brothers and sisters, by the mercy of Christ, your sins are forgiven, for salvation is at hand for all who turn to God. Friends, hear the good news of the Gospel.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Mighty God, send your Holy Spirit to speak peace, that the good news of this age may be proclaimed through your word, which stands forever. **Amen.**

A MOMENT FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 11:1-10

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

Romans 15:4-13

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SPECIAL MUSIC

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” (Arr. Pethel)

(Choir Ensemble)

(Please stand for the reading of the Gospels if you are able)

***READING FROM THE GOSPELS**

Matthew 3:1-12

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

***HYMN #96**

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” (Monk)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Nicene Creed (381 AD)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING/DEDICATION

Lord, we give you thanks that in the coming of Christ your steadfast love and faithfulness have met and your righteousness and peace have kissed. May the gifts we offer this day lift up those in need and prepare the way of your salvation. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING PRAYER (See Insert)

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
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 and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR THE BREAD AND CUP

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves to others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN #384 *"Soon and Very Soon"* (Crouch/John)
(December hymn of the month)

*MOMENT OF SILENCE TO PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*POSTLUDE *"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*

*Please stand if you are able where asterisks are printed.
Words in **bold print** are spoken by the congregation.

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