

**The Worship of God**  
Second Sunday of Advent – December 4, 2022 – 9:00 Morning Worship  
**Welcome to First Presbyterian Church via Zoom!**

PRELUDE

“O Come, Emmanuel”

Charles Callahan

WELCOME

**GATHERING AROUND GOD’S WORD**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Imagine with us, a world where God takes shoots and buds and uses them for large purposes.

**We imagine a world, where baby cows and baby bears play together in peace and harmony,  
where lions and lambs live together in safety.**

Imagine God’s world, where God’s Holy Mountain provides refuge, peace, and safety.

**We come to worship; we come to the mountain to worship  
the One who takes the tiniest shoot and uses it to signal the peace of God.**

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

O God, we pray that reconciling love may be evident among us.

May we play our part in restoring all creation

to the fullness of balance and beauty

as we live in the example of Jesus the Christ.

PRAYER

With this one light, we pray:

O God, we place this light in this holy space

as a reminder that we are on this journey together.

**Be light along all our paths.**

**Lead us to a more just world and help us to stay awake and present  
to your love in each ordinary day.**

**Amen.**

SING

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

#88 VS 3 & 4

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

John the baptizer called us to repent as the kin-dom of heaven comes near.

Yet, we often decide that we would rather not change our lives to see that realm.

**Let us come to God and ask for a spirit of repentance  
as we confess our sins to God and to one another.**

Hear our hearts, God of peace and justice.

**We hear your call for repentance, and we often ignore it.**

**We find it is easier not to change than to reorient our lives to you.**

**We find it is more convenient to continue our lives than re-examine them.**

We would rather glorify being busy

than take time to explore the wonders of your Word and your world through play.

Turn our hearts.

**Open us to the wonder of your peace  
and cultivate a desire in us to seek it.**

Let us know the freedom of your grace.

**Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

“Blessed is God alone who does wondrous things.”

Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, redeemed, and loved.

**Amen.**

SHARING GOD’S PEACE

I invite you to turn to one another and share a sign of peace:

You’re invited to unmute yourselves and exchange peace with one another

### **LISTENING TO GOD’S WORD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-10

SECOND LESSON

Romans 15:4-13

...The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

Reverend Susan Phillips

### **RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

SING

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

#82

GIVING OUR GIFTS

DOXOLOGY

“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

#607

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We come walking and running  
and sometimes even tiptoeing

into the possibility of this abundant feast.

We want to believe in its promise and find its wonder  
revealed again and again in our everyday ordinary.

Come, let us play with bread and with cup and our hearts full of song

to be fed again with grace and love.

It is here at this table that we remember all that God has done  
and all that God is doing right now.

It is here that we give thanks for all that lives and breathes.

We give thanks even for endings and death as newness and wonder comes anew.

We give thanks for all the ways God introduces compassion  
and connection into our world and for every time we are reminded  
that God finds a way out of no way.

**We give thanks for our Creator and the endless work of redemption and renewal.**

**We give thanks for Jesus and the path of love made possible.**

**We give thanks for the Spirit whose presence guides us  
and bonds us in deeper communion.**

**We give thanks to you, O God.**

COMMUNION IS SHARED

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, come and bless what we do here.

**May our eating and drinking in the love of God,  
broaden the way we think, deepen the way we feel,  
and send us out walking and running or maybe just tiptoeing  
into the world to share in the work of creation with you, our God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts & debtors)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE CHAT WINDOW

**SENDING INTO GOD'S WORLD**

SING

"Savior of the Nations, Come"

#102

SENDING

Go forth as a little child.

Go forth seeking to see as God sees,  
with unending love for every creature.

**May it be so!**

Alleluia!

**Amen.**

POSTLUDE

"Savior of the Nations, Come"

Johann Heinrich Buttstedt