

Homesick

First Sunday of Advent

ORDER OF WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 28, 2021

11:00 AM

THE TOLLING OF THE BELL
PRELUDE

*Es Ist Ein Ros
See Fig Leaves Now Sprouting*

John Ferguson

WORDS OF GREETING

One: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord.
All: *Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.*

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Can one be homesick for something you've never known?
**All: *We are homesick for a just world,
for peace like rivers,
for the end of suffering.***
One: Yes, we are homesick-
**All: *for joy that is contagious,
for nations that feel like neighbors,
and for hospitals that run empty.***
One: We are homesick for the world God promises.
**All: *We are homesick, but we are on our way. God is here. God is still creating.
Let us worship Holy God.***

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Ary Family

*HYMN 88 O COME, O COME EMMANUEL (VS. 1-4)

VENI EMMANUEL

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***Gracious God,
We find ourselves with two options every day-
to stay homesick for the world you had in mind, or to allow cynicism to win.
Do we hope against hope, or do we throw in the towel?
Do we insist on a better world, or do we assume it's impossible?
Forgive us for the days when cynicism wins.
Forgive us for numbing our homesick hurt instead of using it to fuel a better world.
Kindle in us a hope that won't let go.
Gratefully we pray, Amen.***

*WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE

***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 earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.***

HYFRYDOL

SHARING FAITH WITH OUR CHILDREN

(Children preschool and younger may go upstairs to the nursery if parents so desire. Children in 1st through 5th grade are invited to attend Agape Kidz, music and crafts with Ms. Talbert in the children's music room on the 2nd floor. All children are welcome to remain with their families throughout the worship service. We really do like having them around.)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lyndy Alexander

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 (p. 204, NT pew bible)
The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

ANTHEM

Creator of the Stars of Night

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 21:25-36 (p. 85, NT pew bible)
The Gospel of our Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON

Rev. Tara N. Reck

*HYMN

See Fig Leaves Now Sprouting
(See last page of bulletin)

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE; INTERCESSORY PRAYER

George Robertson

THE GIVING OF GIFTS

Offertory Sentences

Offertory

Comfort, Comfort, Now My People

Richard Proulx

(During the offertory, please sign the pew information pads so that we might know you are here.)

*DOXOLOGY

VENI EMMANUEL

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION; THE LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN #93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Veni, Emmanuel
Oh, Come, Oh, Come Emmanuel*

Robert Powell

Adapted from liturgy written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

*Please rise in body or spirit.

A warm welcome is extended to all our visitors and friends. For your convenience, childcare is available.
School-aged children are encouraged to remain in worship.

Staff:

Rev. Tara N. Reck & Rev. John Kuper
Dr. Robert Bozeman, Minister of Music
Darla Talbert, Children's Music Director
Ben Jackey, Communications Director
Kathie Carman, Office Administrator