

Order of Worship

We are caring believers who grow, share, and live out our faith in Christ.

1st Sunday in Advent

December 4, 2022 10:00 A.M.

PRELUDE *"Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming"* arr. Berry
Amy Duran, piano

WELCOME Pastor Sayer

Our Approach to God

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH The Puppet Club

Leader: Today we light a candle of refocusing.

People: We understand that, periodically, we need to realign God's ideal life for us and our actual lives.

Leader: Just as a flame becomes a fire, and fire goes where it will, so does the Holy Spirit.

People: The Spirit tries to take us in directions that are surprising and challenging.

Leader: In order to live by the light of God, we need to take stock of who we're being called to be.

People: We light this candle as a sign that we're committed to living in the light of God day after day, year after year.

PUPPET MINISTRY

CALL TO WORSHIP from Isaiah 11

Leader: A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

People: The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

Leader: His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear;

People: But with righteousness he shall judge the poor and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.

Leader: The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together, and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

People: On that date the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

*HYMN *"Of the Father's Love Begotten"* #240

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we're static and stable. We're content with who we are. Maybe too content with who we are. Your Word paints a picture of who we could be striving to be. We don't really evaluate ourselves against that picture. We hold steady instead of really trying to grow as Jesus-followers. Holy Spirit, move us, we pray. Please move us to live into Your hopes for us in Christ. Amen.

HEARING OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

LIVING THANKFULLY AS FORGIVEN PEOPLE

CHANCEL CHOIR *"Prepare the Way of the Lord"* Larkin

The Word of God

GREETING EACH OTHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

*HYMN *"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"* #244

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Matthew 3:1-12

SERMON *"Kaboom!"* Pastor Sayer

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD

Our Response to God

OFFERING

JOYS, THANKS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

THE GENERAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN *"What Child Is This?"* #281

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *"Wonderful Child"* arr. Curry

PRAYER CONCERNS: Anonymous; Lori Anders, Lynn Baker; Christian Brueck; Deanna & Roger Carman; Marilyn Clark; Harold Friedeman; Ernie Hepperle; Janet Kosack; Nancy Lanzalotto; Chris Lombardi; John McGlade, Ed Serrano; Richard Smyth; Craig Terjanian.

THE UNITY PRAYER: Lord, we know our hearts are to be filled with hope and peace, so we pray for a hopeful and peaceful spirit in our hearts.

THE FLOWERS are given by Dorothy Abelman in loving memory of her parents and grandparents and by Chris Doyle in loving memory of Jean Dollman

FLOWER ENVELOPES are in the pews for your convenience in contributing to our Christmas poinsettia display. Checks should be made payable to Guild for Christian Service. You may place them in the offering plate along with your regular offering.

THIS WEEK

Monday	7:45	Bell Choir
Tuesday	7:30	Consistory
Thursday	7:30	Chancel Choir
	7:30	Christian Education Meeting
Saturday	8:30	Men's Group

Sunday, December 11, 2022

3rd Sunday in Advent

9:00 AM Chancel Choir

10:00 AM Worship

Puppet Club and Sunday School

11:15 – Annual Congregational Meeting

11:15 - Children's Choir

LIVE NATIVITY POSTERS are on the table in the narthex. Please take a few and this week place them in local businesses, libraries, supermarkets, etc. On the paper provided, list where you are putting them. Thank you for your help.

FOOD AND CRAFT FAIR/CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING--Please join the Harrington Park community TODAY, Dec 4th from 3-6 for a food and craft fair. CCHP will have a table set up for children. Get your picture taken with Santa, enjoy free hot chocolate, lots of craft vendors as well as delicious food. This is an outdoor fair and takes place on LaRoche Avenue between Lynn and Carmen. The event culminates with the annual tree lighting!

PLEASE JOIN US next Sunday following worship for our Annual Congregational Meeting in the sanctuary.

COOKIE BAKERS WANTED! We are looking for Christmas cookie bakers to bake 1 – 3 dozen cookies for the Live Nativity on December 18. Cookies can be dropped off at the church on the morning of the 18th. Storebought or bakery cookies are welcome too. Look for the sign-up sheet or contact Liz Budinich at liz@southave.net.

THE RAMSEY WIND SYMPHONY will be performing two free concerts—the first will be at William Paterson College on Thursday, December 8 at 7 PM, and the second will be at Tenafly High School on Sunday, December 11 at 2 PM.