

The Lord's Day | December 6, 2020

Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Faith Promise Giving: Remember to prayerfully complete the Faith Promise Giving form. All forms should be completed by Sunday, 12/20. The link is on the home page of the church website. (www.grpca.org)

Tithes and Offerings: Although we are not taking an offering during the worship service, you may place any offerings in the plate in the Narthex. You may also mail checks to the church (1602 Linen Ln. Relay, MD 21227), or give online (grpca.org/give).

Advent Reading | Candle Lighting

Preparation for Worship:

Luke 1:68-69,72

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our father Abraham.

Call to Worship:

Psalm 113

Leader: Praise the LORD.

All: Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD.

Leader: Let the name of the LORD be praised, both now and forevermore.

All: From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the LORD is to be praised.

Leader: The LORD is exalted over all the nations, his glory above the heavens.

All: Who is like the LORD our God, the One who sits enthroned on high, who stoops down to look on the heavens and the earth?

Leader: He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap;

All: he seats them with princes, with the princes of their people.

Leader: He settles the barren woman in her home as a happy mother of children.

All: Praise the LORD.

Invocation

+Opening Hymn:

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Call to Confession:

Psalm 32:5

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Prayer of Confession:

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent.

According to Your promises declared to mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

+Confession of Faith:

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and of the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**universal*

+Song of Response:

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Pastoral Prayer

+Scripture Reading:

Matthew 1:1-17

Sermon: *David's Greater Son*

Rev. Eric Tracy

+Closing Hymn:

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

+Benediction

+Please stand if able

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 vict'ry 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]

Translator: John Mason Neale (1851; Alt. 1951) Name: VENI
EMMANUEL Arranger: Thomas Helmore (1856)

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.

Joy to those who long to see Thee,
Dayspring from on high, appear
Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse,
of Thy birth we long to hear!
O'er the hills the angels singing
News, glad tidings of a birth;
"Go to Him, your praises bringing;
Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness,
He whose glories knew no end;
By His life He brings us gladness,
Our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number,
Born within a cattle stall;
This the everlasting wonder
Christ was born the Lord of all.

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.

Words and music: Charles Wesley, Mark E. Hunt, Rowland Hugh Pritchard.

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free,
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

He comes with comfort speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth;
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth;
before him on the mountains
shall peace, the herald, go;
and righteousness, in fountains,
from hill to valley flow.

O'er ev'ry foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious,
all-blessing and all-blessed;
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand forever—
that name to us is Love.

Author: James Montgomery (1821, 1828; alt. 1990)
Composer: Samuel S. Wesley (1864)