

MAKING ROOM



November 29, 2020
1st Sunday of Advent
*standing as able

Life at Grace Announcements

Opening Voluntary

“Creator of the Stars of Night”

arr. Flor Peeters

Lighting the Advent Candle

John & Anita Priest

*** Call to Worship** (*responsive*)

Jesus is coming! Let us lift up our prayers with thanksgiving.
We will speak to the Friend who hears our words and silence.
Jesus is coming! Don't let go of all the reasons we have to rejoice.
We will sing to the Savior who gives us hope.
Jesus is coming soon! Give your hearts to God.
We will worship the King who makes his home with us.
Let us worship God!

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
 2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.



Is-rael's strength and con-so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long-ing heart.
 by thine all - suf-fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.



With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

Prayer of Confession and Silent Confession

Merciful God, always with us, always coming: We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent. We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we have ignored the promise of your kingdom; we get distracted by all the busyness of this season. O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. Help us to wait to know your will. Help us to look out for the needs of others. Help us to work and watch for your coming, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 40:1-2

“Comfort, O comfort my people,” says our God. “Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.” Friends, believe the good news!

By the grace and love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord, we are forgiven.

***Response (Hymn 113 refrain)** “Angels We Have Heard on High”

GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*** Passing the Peace of Christ** (responsive)

Jesus is the Prince of Peace. We celebrate his coming by sharing the peace he brings. The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Epistle Reading

Romans 15:1-7

We who are strong ought to put up with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Each of us must please our neighbor for the good purpose of building up the neighbor. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, “The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.” For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

121 O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y and, gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by.
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light;
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us; a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Though he was famed during his lifetime as a great preacher, no sermon Phillips Brooks ever preached has been heard or read by as many people as have sung this carol he wrote in December 1868 for the Sunday School children of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Philadelphia.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Message

"Won't You Be My Neighbor?"

Praise

"Make Room"

CASTING CROWNS

Verse 1

A family hiding from the storm found no place at the keeper's door
It was for this a child was born to save a world so cold and hollow

Verse 2

A sleeping town they did not know that lying in a manger low
A Savior king who had no home has come to heal our sorrows

Chorus 1

Is there room in your heart; Is there room in your heart; Is there room in your heart
For God to write His story

Verse 3

Shepherds counting sheep at night do not fear the glory light
You are precious in His sight God has come to raise the lowly

Chorus 2

You can come as you are. It may set you apart
When you make room in your heart and trade your dreams for His glory
Make room in your heart. Make room in your heart

Verse 4

A mother holds the promise tight every wrong will be made right
The road is straight the burden's light for in His hands He holds tomorrow

*** Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*)

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, 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 worshiped and glorified, who 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.

Minute for Stewardship

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, 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. Amen.

Time of Commitment

Tithes & Offerings

"God With Us"

by Leslie Jordan

Verse 1

Oh You've come to bring peace to be Love to be nearer to us
You've come to bring life to be Light to shine brighter in us
Oh Emmanuel God with us

Chorus

Our Deliverer You are Savior in Your presence we find our strength
Over ev'rything our Redemption
God with us, You are God with us

Verse 2

Oh You've come to be Hope to this world for Your honor and name
And You've come to take sin to bear shame and to conquer the grave
Oh Emmanuel God with us

Bridge

You are here; You are holy; We are standing in Your glory (Lord)
(REPEAT)

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him.

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn 105

"People Look East"

BESANÇON

People, Look East

12

Eleanor Farjeon (1881–1965)

BESANÇON 8.7.9.8.8.7

French folk melody

As in *Oxford Book of Carols*, 1964

Harm. Martin Shaw (1875–1958)

1. Peo - ple, look east. The time is near Of the crown-ing of the
 2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, One more seed is plant-ed
 3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, Guard the nest that must be
 4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim One more light the bowl shall

year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, Trim the
 there: Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, That in
 filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen God for
 brim, Shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, Bright as

Peo-ple, look east and sing to - day:
 hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo-ple, look east:
 course the flower may flour - ish.
 fledg - ing time has cho - sen.
 sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo-ple, look east:
 Love the guest is on the way.
 Love the rose is on the way.
 Love the bird is on the way.
 Love the star is on the way.
 Love is on the way.

5. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
 Christ who brings new life to earth.
 Set every peak and valley humming

With the word, the Lord is coming.
 People, look east and sing today:
 Love the Lord is on the way.

* **Benediction**

Closing Voluntary

“Prelude in G”

J. S. Bach

| Participating in Worship | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Rev. Dr. Tracey Davenport | Pastor, Head of Staff |
| Rev. Cara Ellis | Children’s Pastor |
| Michael King | Director of Music Ministries |
| Trenton Hull | Worship Leader |
| Pat Harris | Liturgist |
| Andrew Packard | Organist |
| Roy Davis | A/V |
| Deann Collins | A/V |



Poinsettias

Grace Presbyterian Church is a welcoming community of faith,

- *Seeking unity as we follow Christ,*
- *Loving and supporting each other,*
- *Learning and growing together, and*
- *Serving those in need in Plano and the world.*



Tithes & Offerings

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