

The Fourth Week of Advent
“Chrismons”
December 20, 2020
9:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” Trinity Bells
“Ding Dong Merrily on High” arr. Laura Page. Trinity Bells

WELCOME Pastor Michael P. Dorn, Senior Pastor

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING HYMN “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” LSB 338

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 ev’ry nation,
Joy of ev’ry longing heart.

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.

LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH - LOVE The Brian Abby Family

Ensemble: *Of the Father’s love begotten, ere the world began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He.*

All (sung): Emmanuel, Emmanuel, evermore and evermore, Emmanuel.

Reader: During Advent, we wait for the One promised in Scripture.

All: And He will be called Everlasting Father.

Reader: We wait for the One who knows our deepest thoughts and fulfills our every need.

All: And He will be called Everlasting Father.

Reader: We wait for the One who will love us unconditionally, as a parent loves a child.

All: And He will be called Everlasting Father.

Reader: We wait for the One whose grace and mercy will never end.

All: And He will be called Everlasting Father.

Reader: Today we light four candles. The first candle reminds us of our hope in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor, the second candle, that Jesus came to bring peace into the world. The third candle reminds us of our joy in proclaiming Christ as almighty God. We light the fourth candle to celebrate the fact that God loves us in spite of our sins, just as a parent loves a child. In an unsettled world, surrounded by confusion, we affirm that our Everlasting Father is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Ensemble: *Let the heights of heaven adore Him; angel hosts His praises sing: Powers, dominions, bow before Him, and extol our God and King.*

All (sung): Emmanuel, Emmanuel, evermore and evermore, Emmanuel.

Ensemble: *Evermore and evermore, Emmanuel.*

Reader: Let us pray . . . Gracious Lord, we thank You for Your promises and for coming to earth to be our Everlasting Father. As we continue our Advent journey, remind us of Your eternal and steadfast love, and help us radiate this love to others by our actions, and with our words. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

R The Old Testament Reading is from the 7th Chapter of 2nd Samuel.

R ¹Now when the king lived in his house and the Lord had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ²the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." ³And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you."

⁴But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, ⁵"Go and tell My servant David, 'Thus says the Lord: Would you build Me a house to dwell in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for My dwelling. ⁷In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?"' ⁸Now, therefore, thus you shall say to My servant David, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over My people Israel. ⁹And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for My people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over My people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. . . .

¹⁶And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before Me. Your throne shall be established forever.'" (ESV)

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READINGRomans 16:25-27

R The Epistle Reading is from the 16th Chapter of Romans.

R ²⁵Now to Him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen. (ESV)

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA AND VERSE LSB 173

C **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 1:26-38

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st Chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

P ²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David, ³³and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the Child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her. (ESV)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CONFESSION OF FAITH Nicene Creed

P We confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

C **I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and 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 men 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 the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I 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 I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Matt Meier

MESSAGE Pastor Michael P. Dorn, Senior Pastor

PRAYERS

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

OFFERING

(Offerings may be submitted online to www.trinitydt.org, by mail to Trinity Downtown, 800 Houston Ave., Houston, TX 77007 or dropped off at the office, M-F, 8:30 - 2:30.)

MUSICAL OFFERING "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Ensemble and Trinity Bells
arr. Barlow Bradford

*O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appears.*

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

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

*O come, Desire of Nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind:
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace.*

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

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

CONFESSION

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ☩ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ☩ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

DISMISSAL

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ☩ in peace.
- C** **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you.
The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The LORD look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN "Hark the Glad Sound!" LSB 349

ALL: Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
 The Savior promised long;
 Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
 And ev'ry voice a song.

ALL: He comes the pris'ners to release,
In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst,
The iron fetters yield.

ENSEMBLE: *He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace
To enrich the humble poor.*

ALL: Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring
With Thy belovèd name.

POSTLUDE Chesterfield, "Hark the Glad Sound" Carla Barrows, Organ
setting by Jeffrey Blersch

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

"Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus" - Text and tune: Public domain

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Divine Service, Setting 2 from Lutheran Service Book

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