

8AM & 11AM SANCTUARY SERVICES

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ CALL TO WORSHIP UMH No. 845 Psalm 122 (11am - Sung Response 1)

✠ HYMN No. 196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

BLESSING OF ADVENT WREATH

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'" (Psalm 122:1)

We are glad to be here in this community of faith where we worship and serve together.

It is a place of joyful hope and warm welcome.

It is a place where together we wait in wondrous anticipation of the kingdom to come.

"Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that God may teach us God's ways and that we may walk in God's paths'" (Isaiah 2:3). We light this candle as a sign of our hope. May this Advent season help to restore our hope, our faith, our strength, and our joy. We watch and wait with God's people for the promise to be fulfilled.

Loving God, your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin. Pour forth your blessing upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the light reflect the splendor of Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & PARDON

Holy God, we are rushing headlong into this season of buying, giving, and struggle. We over-schedule our time, overdraw our resources, ignore those moments in which we could have quiet time with our families and with you. We speak of obligations, of the need to be busy, of the pressure to purchase. Forgive us for our stubborn insistence on maintaining schedule rather than focusing on your love. Heal us. Strengthen us and make us watchful in our faith. We ask this in Jesus' name, amen.

pause in silence for personal confession

Watch! Wait! God is bringing to you new hope and peace. It is a gift you cannot earn. Praise be to the Giver of All Great Gifts, our Lord. **Amen.**

(11am) CHILDREN'S TIME

As children come forward, let us sing together "Jesus Loves Me":

Jesus loves me, this I know, For the Bible tells me so, Little ones to Him belong, They are weak, but He is strong, Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, The Bible tells me so

PRAYERS FOR STUDENT SUNDAY (see bulletin insert)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Following each petition, please respond: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, which 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

✠ HYMN No. 626 "Let All Mortal Flesh keep Silence" Vs. 1-3

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY

8am Organ Voluntary

11am Choral Anthem, "I Shall Know Him When He Comes"

✠ PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS No. 95 Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 2:1-5

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ²In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares,

and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 24:36-44

³⁶But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

May God bless our reading of the Holy Scriptures. Amen.

SERMON

Rev. Dane Womack

✠ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH No. 880 The 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.

✠ GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: World without end. Amen. Amen.

✠ INVITATION

✠ HYMN No. 203 “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

✠ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

9AM WORSHIP CENTER

✠ OPENING SONGS

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SHARE THE PEACE OF CHRIST WITH YOUR NEIGHBOR

CHILDREN'S TIME

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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OFFERTORY

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SERMON

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✠ CLOSING SONG

✠ LORD'S PRAYER

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