

ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 29, 2020

First Sunday in Advent

Gathering

As the congregation gathers, please take a moment to wave to people sitting around you whom you may not know. Hebrews 13:2 (KJV) says, "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unaware."

Prelude

Holly Slice, pianist

As the prelude begins let us turn our thoughts and hearts to God in prayer and preparation for worship.

Greeting

Opening Hymn

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.

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.

Pastoral Prayer

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Minister: Let us pray.

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 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. Amen.*

The Scripture Lesson

Luke 1:13-17

Minister: The word of God for the people of God.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Special Music

Breath of Heaven

Spell Chapel Ensemble

Sermon

"God Doesn't Forget Our Prayers"

Rev. Mark Barnes

Invitation to Communion

Prayer of Confession (pray in unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pardon

Minister: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: *In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!*

All: *Glory to God. Amen*

Hymn of Dedication

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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree, an ensign of they people be;
before thee rulers silent fall; all peoples on they mercy call.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Benediction

Postlude

The Altar greens are given to the Glory of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sympathy: Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Reggie Cross. Reggie died Sunday, November 22, 2020.

Thanksgiving Food Bags

Thank you, thank you, Bethany family, for ALL your help with the **352** food bags we distributed! Whether it was financial or physical labor, ALL was greatly appreciated. Check out the pictures on Facebook, especially our youth filling the bags. The people who picked up the bags were extremely grateful, and so are we! You continue to be a blessing to our community.

-Local Mission Committee

Pick up Your Advent Bag TODAY!

Advent bags are still available for pick-up. Please pick up a bag at the end of service today. While many of us are quarantining at home, we wanted all people to experience the Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace this Advent season. The bags will have materials to make your very own Advent wreath, Advent calendars, one with scriptures and one with activities, Advent readings, and other surprises. At Christmas we celebrate that in Christ, "The true light that shines on all people was coming into the world" (John 1:9).

All households are welcome to pick up a bag as we go through this Advent journey together.

Advent Services

Each Wednesday during Advent a worship service will be held at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. This Wednesday Rev. Mark Barnes will preach. There will also be a virtual option (via Facebook and our website).

Wednesdays- December 2, 9, and 16.

Angel Tree

Bethany's Angel Tree is in full swing. Please review the available slots by visiting the link on our website. Please continue to check back because names will be added to the list for the next several weeks. Gifts are to be returned to the Business Office no later than Thursday, Dec. 10. We hope you will find it in your hearts to make a child's Christmas wishes come true this year.

<https://www.signupgenious.com/go/10c0d4bafaf2fa3fcc34-angel>. The link can also be found on our website www.bethany-umc.com/Christmas.

Christmas Closet

Tea Room Gift Shop in person shopping will be available for limited hours.

Come view the items that were available for the online shop as well as some new items! Covid protocols will be followed.

Tuesday Dec. 1: 10am -2pm

Wednesday Dec. 2: 4pm-7pm

Thursday Dec. 3: 10am-2pm

Sunday Dec. 6: 8:30am-12pm



*Bethany United Methodist Church
Spell Chapel ~ 8 o'clock a.m.*

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