of the GREEK

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



December 1, 2013 6:00 p.m.



Preparing for Advent Worship

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE: "In the Bleak Mildwinter" and "Angels we have heard on high".	K. Lombardo
WELCOME	Gabe Statom
SONG OF PREPARATION: "The Holly and the Ivy"	arr. John Rutter
The holly and the ivy, now both are full well grown. Of all the trees that are in the wood, the holly bears the crown. Oh, the rising of the sun, the running of the deer. The playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the quire.	
The holly bears a blossom as white as lily flower; And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to be our sweet Savior.	
The holly bears a berry as red as any blood; And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to do poor sinners good.	
The holly bears a prickle as sharp as any thorn; And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ on Christmas day in the morn.	
The holly bears a bark as bitter as any gall; And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ for to redeem us all.	
The holly and the ivy, when they are both full grown, Of all the trees that are in the wood, the holly bears the crown.	
The rising of the sun and the running of the deer, The playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.	
Youth Choir Ginger Statom, director	
LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE.	. Coley and Parker Stout
PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"	VENI EMMANUEL
Please remain seated for the first four verses. Stand for verse five only.	
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, 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. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.	
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. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.	
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.	

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

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

Called to Advent Worship

..... Zachary Keasling ♦CALL TO WORSHIP How shall we prepare this house for the birth of Jesus? With branches of cedar, the tree of excellence and strength. How shall we prepare this house for the eternal Christ? With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green. How shall we prepare this house for the prophet of Galilee? With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death and resurrection. How shall we prepare our hearts for this revelation of God? By hearing again the words of the prophets and the promises of God. For in the story of Jesus we see revealed the transforming power of God. We are reminded anew of God's vision of wholeness, justice, and peace for all of creation. Thanks be to God. In a tiny town, on a clear, cold night, in a stable small was born the Child of light. Angels filled the sky, with their songs of joy bringing tiding of a newborn baby boy. Halleluiah, Halleluiah, Halleluiah! Ir. Cherub Choir Terri Theil, director; Mary Lawrence Flinn, accompanist PRAYER OF ADORATION Shepherds arise, listen to the angels sing. Good news great joy, tidings of a newborn King. Fear not behold, these glad tidings come unto you on this day. Jesus the promised Messiah, sleeps in a manger of hay. There in a Bethlehem manger, God's matchless gift of great worth. God's wondrous love to us bringing, peace and good tidings to earth. Sr. Cherub and First Grade Choirs Mimi Vestal, director; Mary Lawrence Flinn, accompanist

> Music Makers and Spirit and Song Choirs Abby Brown, soloist Terri Theil, director; Molly Johnson accompanist

Sent to Worship and Proclaim

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, You have caused this world to shine with Your true Light. You have given us Jesus, who came to reveal to us Your glory and grace. As you have given this gift in love, may we receive it with joy! We dedicate all of these beautiful decorations to You and ask that You would let them be reminders to us of Your presence that is with us at all times. In this season of Advent, help us to reflect Your light and Your love to a world that is often dark and cold. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen

WORDS OF INSTRUCTION AND DISMISSAL

Decorating Opportunities:

Children and families will enjoy music while working on crafts and decorating cookies (Fellowship Hall)

Decorate the Christmas tree with the 3Ms (*Reception Area – B Building*)

Decorate the tree and railing (C Building – Downstairs)

Decorate the Chapel with the Chapel Class

Decorate the International Ministry tree (West Entrance – Outside C310)

Decorate the lobby areas around the Sanctuary (Connector by Welcome Center)

Help hang outdoor wreaths (Main Sanctuary Entrance - Poplar Avenue side)

Reassemble outside the Russell (PDS) Building for the live nativity

THE NATIVITY

"Silent Night"

BENEDICTION

♦ Indicates congregation standing

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