

LIVING STONE WORSHIP

✠ Second Sunday in Advent ✠

Sunday, December 7, 2025 at 10:45 a.m.

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Prayer Before Worship

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come among us with great might. Because we are severely hindered by our sins, by Your grace and mercy deliver us quickly through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Announcements & Greeting

Call to Worship

Psalm 72:1-7

- L Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal Son.
C **May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.**
L May he defend the cause of the poor and give deliverance to the children of the needy.
C **May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.**

ALL In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound.

Opening Song

“Angels from the Realms of Glory (Emmanuel)”

- 1 **Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o’er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation’s story,
Now proclaim Messiah’s birth.
Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**
- 2 **Shepherds in the field abiding,
Watching o’er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines the Infant Light.
Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

Chorus

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel, You are the God who saves us
Worthy of all our praises. Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
Come, have your way among us,
We welcome you here, Lord Jesus.
Come, have your way among us,
We welcome you here, Lord Jesus.**

Pre-Chorus

**Come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king:
God is with us even now His love is here. (repeat)
His love is here!**

Chorus

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Emmanuel.

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Invocation

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

Confession of Sins and Absolution

(2 Peter 3:14) (Isaiah 40:5a) (Philippians 4:7) (Colossians 3:15a)

- P “So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.”
C **“And the glory of the Lord will be revealed.”**
P The peace that we have in Christ transcends all understanding. It guards our hearts and minds in Him , At His invitation, we confess together:
C **We have sinned and fallen short of Your glory. We are unworthy of Your grace. Savior of the nations, come. Make our hearts Your home. Abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.**

Silence for reflection

- P Christ came to earth to save you. He died for your sins. “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.” 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. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth!**

Salutation & Prayer of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- C **And also with you.**
- P Let us pray.
O Lord, almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may live and abide forever in Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Mark 13:31, Luke 21

- P The peace of Christ be with you.
- C **And also with you.**
- P Today we light two Advent candles. The second candle of Advent is the candle of peace.
- C **May Christ’s peace reign in our hearts.**
- P Prepare the way of the Holy One!
- C **Our eyes will see the salvation of God.**

Response (Sung)

“Light the Candle” - Carl Schalk

**Light the candle of PEACE today, the Giver of peace is here!
Welcome the peace we fight and cry for, but only Christ can give.
Flicker and flame and glow with peace, light up the world around you.
Flicker and flame and glow with peace, light up the world around you.**

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Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1–10

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what His eyes see, or decide disputes by what His ears hear, but with righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of His waist, and faithfulness the belt of His loins. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder’s den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of Him shall the nations inquire, and His resting place shall be glorious.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

Romans 15:4–13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise You among the Gentiles, and sing to Your name." And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people." And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol Him." And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even He who arises to rule the Gentiles; in Him will the Gentiles hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

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

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make His paths straight.'"

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He will clear His threshing floor and gather His wheat into the barn, but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Song of the Day

"The First Noel"

1 The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

3 And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went. *Chorus*

Chorus

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night. *Chorus*

4 This star drew near to the northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay. *Chorus*

Sermon

Song of Response

“Without Hesitation”

Verse 1

You spoke light into existence
Separated sky and sea
Set the stars and worlds in motion
And You gave it all to me.

Chorus

What can I say? How can I thank You?
All of my days, I want to praise You.
Without hesitation You gave Yourself to me.
Without hesitation I fall upon my knees.

Verse 2

You made land and winding rivers
Singing birds in ev'ry tree.
The whole canvas of creation
And You gave it all to me.

Chorus

Verse 3

A dirty stall and borrowed linen
In a place no babe should be,
You left all-surpassing glory
And You gave it all for me.

Chorus 2x

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Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the ☩ life everlasting. Amen.

Children's Message

Offering

Offertory Song

“Christmas Offering”

Verse 1

Over the skies of Bethlehem appeared a star.
While angels sang to lowly shepherds;
Three wise men seeking truth traveled from afar,
Hoping to find the child from Heaven;
Falling on their knees,
They bowed before the humble Prince of Peace.

Chorus 1

I bring an offering of worship to my King.
No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing.
Jesus, may You receive the honor that You're due.
O Lord, I bring an offering to You.
I bring an offering to You.

Verse 2

The sun cannot compare to the glory of Your love.
There is no shadow in Your presence;
No mortal man would dare to stand before Your throne,
Before the Holy One of heaven;
It's only by Your blood,
And it's only through Your mercy, Lord, I come.

Chorus 1

Chorus 2

I bring an offering of worship to my King.
No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing.
Jesus, may You receive the honor that You're due.
O Lord, I bring an offering to You.
O Lord, I bring an offering to You.
O Lord, I bring an offering to You.
I bring an offering to You.

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Prayer of the Church

- ✝ All who mourn the death of Barry Hooper, father of Aaron Hooper.
- ✝ Thanksgiving for the 10th wedding anniversary of Pastor Tanner and Whitney Wade (Dec. 5).
- ✝ Kathy Larson effective cancer treatment.

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C **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.**

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.**

Numbers 6:24–26

Closing Song

“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

- 1 Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
- Ref Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”
- 2 Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel! Refrain
- 3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth. Refrain

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We rejoice in the following Baptisms in the Sanctuary this weekend!

✝ Ashley Marie Bearden & Brooks Morgan Bearden ✝
Son of Andrew and Ashley Bearden
Sponsors Spencer Bearden, Sarah Vonoehsen, and Renee Zittel

Preacher
Liturgist
Assisting Seminarian
Instrumentalists

Pastor Thompson
Pastor Schudde
Noah Bauer
Whitney Wade, Valerie Winkler, guitar
Mark Yaeger, piano
Ben Rudzinski, percussion

Sound

Jonny Thompson, Leslie Rudzinski, Valerie Winkler, Whitney Wade, vocals
Eli Hackman

Acknowledgments

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