

# Liturgy for Corporate Worship

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent

November 29, 2020

Prelude

Introit

Sue Lechota

Emmanuel

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Call to Worship

Isaiah 7:10-14

Hymn 300

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Corporate Prayer of Confession & Silent Confession

**Heavenly Father, this Advent season we celebrate the coming of Immanuel, God with us. And through this great act of grace, you motivate us to good deeds of our own. Even so, we often overestimate our goodness, as if we could somehow merit salvation. Convict us of this sin and convince us that our own efforts can do nothing to save us. Cause our eyes to see your salvation, and to know that there is only one means by which we might be saved, namely the work of the Son of God who took on human flesh: Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Jude 1:24

The Gloria Patri

572

**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.**

Prayer of Dedication

Elder Bob Stephens

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. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

Unison Scripture Reading

1 John 4:15-21

Special Music

Carol & Grace Holmberg  
& Anna Black

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn 42B

As Pants the Deer for Flowing Streams (vv. 1-5)

Sermon

Rev. Pete Scribner

1 Corinthians 13:1-13...*Love Came Down* (part 1)

Hymn 459

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Benediction

Parting Hymn

**God be with you till we meet again; By His counsels guide, uphold you, with His sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again. Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet; Till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.**

Postlude

### **Featured Element of Worship: Advent**

You may have noticed that in addition to the Christmas decorations with which the Diaconate has adorned the sanctuary, you may have noticed that the paraments on the pulpit, lectern and communion table have changed to purple. The reason for this is that the season of Advent begins today. The term "Advent" means "arrival" or "coming," and this season marks the beginning of a new year in the church calendar. It is a season of anticipation leading up to the celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas, so it is a season of longing, of anticipation. Advent is not only meant to focus our attention on Christ's birth though. As Zac Hicks has stated, "Advent is also meant to remind us...to look forward to Jesus' *second* advent, when He will return in full glory and usher in the new heavens and the new earth, as recorded in the book of Revelation. When we look at the world around us, do we not long for Christ to return...and return soon? These longings are what Advent is intended to stir in us. Advent reminds us of what all creation is driving toward; it reminds us of life's ultimate meaning and purpose—Jesus Christ." Love came down once...and it will again!

# Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

300

1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
 2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Day - spring from on high, ap - pear;  
 3. Come to earth to taste our sad - ness, he whose glo - ries knew no end;  
 4. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
 come, thou prom - ised Rod of Jes - se, of thy birth we long to hear!  
 by his life he brings us glad - ness, our Re - deem - er, Shep - herd, Friend.  
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
 O'er the hills the an - gels sing - ing news, glad tid - ings of a birth:  
 Leav - ing rich - es with - out num - ber, born with - in a cat - tle stall;  
 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear De - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.  
 "Go to him, your prais - es bring - ing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."  
 this the ev - er - last - ing won - der, Christ was born the Lord of all.  
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

## **Unison Scripture Reading: 1 John 4:15-21 (ESV)**

<sup>15</sup> Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup> So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. <sup>17</sup> By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. <sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. <sup>21</sup> And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

### **Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (ESV)**

**13** If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned but have not love, I gain nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

<sup>8</sup> Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. <sup>9</sup> For we know in part and we prophesy in part, <sup>10</sup> but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. <sup>11</sup> When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. <sup>12</sup> For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

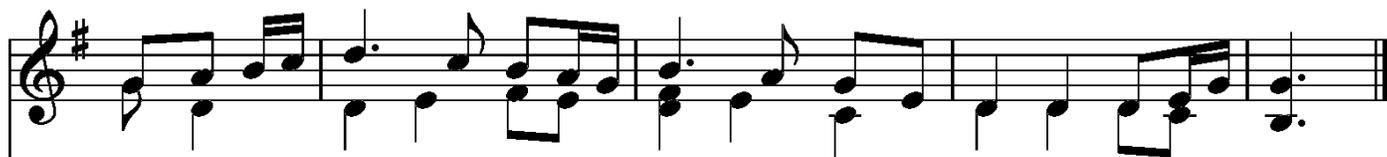
<sup>13</sup> So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

## 42B

## As Pants the Deer for Flowing Streams

*Unison*

1. <sup>1</sup>As pants the deer for flow-ing streams, so longs my soul for you, O God.
2. <sup>3</sup>My con-stant tears have been my food, both in the night and in the day,
3. <sup>4</sup>I now re - mem - ber all these things as I pour out my soul with - in:
4. In their pro - ces - sion I would lead as we ap-proached with cheer-ful song
5. <sup>5</sup>Why are you down - cast, O my soul? Why are you so dis - turbed in me?



- 2<sup>I</sup> thirst for God, the liv - ing God. When can I go and meet with God?  
while all day long in - sis - tent - ly, "Where is your God?" to me they say.
- how with the mul - ti - tude I went up to God's house on Zi - on's hill.  
and shouts of thank - ful - ness and mirth a - mong the fes - tive, joy - ful throng.  
But hope in God, for him I'll praise; my Sav - ior God a - lone is he.



1. My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus' blood and  
 2. When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his un -  
 3. His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup - port me in the  
 4. When he shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in

right - eous - ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, but  
 chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and storm - y gale, my  
 whelm - ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, he  
 him be found, dressed in his right - eous - ness a - lone, fault -

Refrain

whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
 then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all  
 less to stand be - fore the throne.

oth - er ground is sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.