

\*HYMN "Hallelujah Christmas" Cloverton

*Verse 1*  
I've heard about this baby boy  
Who's come to earth to bring us joy  
And I just want to sing this song to you  
It goes like this, the fourth, the fifth  
The minor fall, the major lift  
With every breath I'm singing Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

*Verse 2*  
A couple came to Bethlehem  
Expecting child, they searched the inn  
To find a place for You were coming soon  
There was no room for them to stay  
So in a manger filled with hay  
God's only Son was born, oh Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

*Verse 3*  
The shepherds left their flocks by night  
To see this baby wrapped in light  
A host of angels led them all to You  
It was just as the angels said  
You'll find Him in a manger bed  
Immanuel and Savior, Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

*Verse 4*  
A star shown bright up in the east  
To Bethlehem, the wisemen three  
Came many miles and journeyed long for You  
And to the place at which You were  
Their frankincense and gold and myrrh  
They gave to You and cried out Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

*Verse 5*  
I know You came to rescue me  
This baby boy would grow to be  
A man and one day die for me and you  
My sins would drive the nails in You  
That rugged cross was my cross, too  
Still every breath You drew was Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Joy on Christmas Day" Sewell

*Thank you to Kristin Coco being our liturgist this morning.*

**The Elder of the Week is Jim Saraceno**

**Elfinwild Presbyterian Church**

**Order of Worship**

**First Sunday in Advent**

**December 2, 2018**

*You are invited to use Scripture for reflection  
or the following prayer as you prepare your hearts for worship.*

**“Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for.” Hebrews 11:1-2**

PRELUDE “Christmas Offering” Baloche  
*Praise Team*

WORDS OF WELCOME

BRINGING THE LIGHT “Joy to the World” ANTIOCH  
**Joy to the world! The Lord is come:  
Let earth receive her King; Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH The Rob and Mary Miller family

Scripture reading Isaiah 9:1-7  
Lighting of the Candle of Hope

COLLECT (UNISON PRAYER)

**God of hope, You call us from the exile of sin with the good news of restoration; You build a highway through the wilderness, You come to us and bring us home. Comfort us with the expectations of Your saving power, made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

\* HYMN OF PRAISE No. 9 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” VENI EMMANUEL

CALL TO CONFESSION

Prepare the way of the Lord! Let us make our confession to God.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, always with us, always coming: We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent. We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we have ignored the promise of your kingdom; we get distracted by all the busyness of this season. Forgive us, God. Grant us simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph, that we may journey with them to Bethlehem and find the good news of a child born for us. Now, in the quiet of our hearts, we ask you to make us ready for his coming. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isaiah 40:1-2

Leader: Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Your sins are pardoned. The penalty is paid. Friends, receive and believe the Good News of the Gospel!

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!!**

\*RESPONSE **Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY “Let Us Be” Dyba, Hurst & Webb

\*DOXOLOGY **O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

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 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.**

ANTHEM “Veni, Veni, Emmanuel” Trotta

SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 27:1-6,13-14  
(page 521 in the pew Bible)

SERMON “The Challenge of Waiting” Dr. Dirk Lesnett

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Words of Invitation

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

Receiving the Bread+ (Gluten free wafers are in the bowl in the center of the plate)

Receiving the Cup+

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*+(please hold each element until all are served)*