

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

“Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)”

Chris Tomlin

***The Elder of the Week is Kelly Simile***

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**Elfinwild Presbyterian Church**  
**Order of Worship**  
**First Sunday in Advent**  
**December 3, 2017**

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

**“The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.” John 1:9**

WORDS OF WELCOME

BRINGING THE LIGHT

“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.**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Maureen Profeta

Scripture reading

Isaiah 9:1-7

Lighting of the Candle of Hope

COLLECT (UNISON PRAYER)

**O Lord, keep us awake and alert, watching for Your kingdom. Make us strong in faith  
so we may greet Your Son when He comes again, and joyfully give Him praise, with  
You and with the Holy Spirit. Amen**

\* HYMN OF PRAISE No. 2

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

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

“Jesus, What a Wonderful Child”

Joel Raney

\*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

“Noel”

Heather Sorenson

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 64:1-9  
(page 700 in the pew Bible)

SERMON

“Come Down”

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)*