

First Sunday in Advent
November 30, 2025

Welcome
Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Psalm 118:1
Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

Hymn: O Come O Come Emmanuel
Invocation

#194

The Law of Christ: 1Peter 3:8-11

Pastor: The Apostle Peter summarized the moral law of God by saying,

Congregation: Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it.

Pastor: Beloved we have not done this as we ought; therefore, let us confess our sin:

Corporate Confession of sin: From Ps 51

Have mercy on me, O God, because of your unfailing love. Because of your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins. Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin. For I recognize my shameful deeds-- they haunt me day and night. Against you, and you alone, have I sinned; I have done what is evil in your sight. You will be proved right in what you say, and your judgment against me is just. For I was born a sinner-- yes, from the moment my mother conceived me. But you desire honesty from the heart, so you can teach me to be wise in my inmost being. Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Cleanse me in the blood of your righteous and only-begotten Son, my Savior the Lord Jesus Christ by whose merit we pray. Amen

Personal (silent)

Assurance of Pardon: 1 John 1:8-9

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Congregation: We give praise to God who is faithful and just. Who has forgiven us of our sins and cleansed us from unrighteousness.

Pastor: How pure has the blood of Christ made you?

Congregation: Although our sins were like scarlet, they are as white as snow (Isa 1:18).

All: Praise and glory be to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Pastor: Colossians 3:1

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Congregation: **We praise you for the position we have in Christ. We pray that our lives will reflect him in all we do. Thank you that in Christ we too have died to sin. Help us to set our minds on the heavenly things so that we would love you above all and our neighbors as ourselves.** Response:

Minister: It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night. (Ps 92:1)

Congregation: For you make me glad by your deeds, O LORD; I sing for joy at the works of your hands. How great are your works, O LORD, how profound your thoughts! (Ps 92:4-5)

Hymn: Jesus What a Friend for Sinners

#498

Confession of Faith: 12. Q. Since, according to God's righteous judgment we deserve temporal and eternal punishment, how can we escape this punishment and be again received into favor?

A. God demands that His justice be satisfied. Therefore full payment must be made either by ourselves or by another.

Song: His Name is Wonderful

His name is Wonderful, His name is Wonderful,
His name is Wonderful, Jesus my Lord;
He is the mighty King, Master of everything,
His name is Wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.

He's the great Shepherd, the Rock of all ages,
Almighty God is He;
Bow down before Him, love and adore Him,
His name is Wonderful, Jesus my Lord.

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel: Matt 13:31-58

Psalter: Ps 60 (Tune Arlington, #154)

O God, Thou hast rejected us,
Hast broken us once more.
As Thou with us hast angry been,
O once again restore.

For Thou hast made the earth to quake,
Hast torn it fearfully.
O heal its gaping cracks, for, lo,
It shakes in agony!

For Thou hast made the people see
The hardness of distress,
And Thou hast made them drink the wine
Of reeling drunkenness.

But those that fear Thee Thou didst give
A banner in their sight,
That they might rally and be firm,
Made strong by truth and right.

O grant that Thy be-lov-ed ones
May safe delivered be.
O save them with Thy strong right hand,
And do Thou answer me.

Epistle: Heb 11:24-31

By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.

By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible.

By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned.

By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days.

By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient,
because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

Sermon: The Ministry of Paul and Peter

Acts 9:26-43

Lord's Supper

Bread: O Christ Our Hope Our Hearts Desire (Tune Azmon #164)

#161

Cup: I Will Boast in the Cross

God did not call us because we were wise
Or gifted with riches and might
His chosen ones are the weak in this world
Who hope in His all saving name,
That He might receive all the praise.

Chorus

So I will boast in the cross of Christ
And I will glory in Jesus and His sacrifice.
I will boast in the cross of Christ.
It is the power; it is the wisdom of God
And my great ransom, the cross of Christ.

Great is the mystery of God's sovereign ways
That flow from the depths of His grace.
That He would give up His one precious Son
To bear all the cost of my sin,
Is a wonder I can't comprehend.

(Chorus)

Offering:

Doxology:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him all creatures here below.

Praise him above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayer

Closing Song: **May the Grace of Christ Our Savior**

May the grace of Christ our Savior

And the Father's boundless love,

With the Holy Spirit's favor,

Rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union

With each other and the Lord,

And possess, in sweet communion,

Joys, which earth cannot afford.

Benediction

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