

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

November 27, 2016

10:15 A.M.

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

Prelude: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

Peeters

ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING

Silent Prayer and Preparation

* Call to Worship: Isaiah 40:1–5

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her

that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins..

A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

* Hymn: PH 194 "Comfort, Comfort Now My People" GENEVAN 42

* God's Greeting:

Grace and peace be to you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

Who made heaven and earth.

Blessed be God,

And blessed is his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Advent Reading: Genesis 1:1–5

All: In this season of Advent, we look for Christ to come and bring his light to our dark world.

Reader 1: In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep.

Reader 2: A wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said "Let there be light,"

Reader 1: And there was light. And God saw that the light was good.

Reader 2: God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night.

All: And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Response: PH 342, v. 1 "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

CONFESSION AND PRAYER

Call to Confession:

James 4:7–10

Prayer of Confession:

We pray, O Lord, purify our hearts, that they may be worthy to become your dwelling place. Let us never fail to find room for you, but come and abide in us, that we also may abide in you, who was born into the world for us, you, who live and reign, King of kings and Lord of lords, now and for evermore. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

Jeremiah 31:3–6

God's Will for Our Lives:

Ephesians 5:8–20

Response: PH 331, v. 1 "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You" WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN

O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy, your lamp within my breast,
to do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.

Congregational Prayer

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

* Hymn: PH 328

"O Come, O Come, Immanuel"

VENI IMMANUEL

[Children age 3 - grade Pre-K may leave after the hymn.]

Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 2:1–5 (p. 676); Romans 13:11–14 (p. 1124)

Sermon: A Brighter Future Through Obedience

Prayer

* Hymn: Insert

"Give Us Clean Hands"

GIVE US CLEAN HANDS (CCLI1099351)

THE OFFERING OF TRIBUTE

* Offertory Prayer

Offerings: Fairlawn General Fund

Offertory: "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Lasky

* The Apostles' Creed (Inside front cover of the Psalter Hymnal)

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

* Benediction:

Romans 15:5–6

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

* Doxology: PH 453

"Let All Things Now Living"

ASH GROVE

* Postlude: "Savior of the Nations, Come"

Callahan