

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Becky Burris, Katherine Burris
Becky Harm, Emily Harris

Leader: ...Let us walk in the light of the Lord.
Let us pray together.

People: (unison) Faithful God, we are glad for your promises to us. We trust that the time is coming when all people will experience comfort, wholeness and liberty. May we do our part to bring your good news of great joy to all. Amen.

Sing: Come, come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

* HYMN NO. 41

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Eternity, when we face our reflection we find little reason for rejoicing. We confess that we are lost and broken. We are led to lives of gentleness, but we are filled with anger and hurt. Invited to be generous, we tighten our grip on our possessions. Called to justice, we find it too easy to turn away from those who are different. You are our salvation, Lord. You bring true forgiveness. You can make us new. Forgive us, we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God hears the spoken confessions of our lips and the silent confessions of our hearts.

People: We pray for God's forgiveness of our many sins.

Leader: Hear the good news: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

* GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Hymn No. 23

* THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

* Those who are able are invited to stand.

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Speak to us, Lord.
Speak to us in the waiting, the watching, the hoping, the longing, the sorrow, the sighing, the rejoicing.
Speak to us by your Word in these Advent days, and walk with us until the day of your coming. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 35:1-7

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

HANDBELL ANTHEM

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Geschke

TIME FOR THE CHILDREN

Children are invited to come forward.

SERMON

Flowers in the Desert: New Life in God's Kingdom

Sherard Edington

The Glory of Lebanon

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

* HYMN NO. 12

People, Look East (verses 1, 4, 5)

BESANCON

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
HANDBELL OFFERTORY
*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. Amen.*

Hayes

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

(Traditional) Hymnal Page 16

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN NO. 8

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*O Little Town of Bethlehem
How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, Still the dear Christ enters in.*

Hymn No. 44

POSTLUDE

O Thou of God the Father

Bach



CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP

A Service of Lessons and Carols 7:00 P.M.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LEBANON, TENNESSEE

Service for the Lord’s Day

December 11, 2016

Third Sunday of Advent

11:00 a.m.



THE GATHERING

To Glorify God and Enjoy God Forever

SILENT MEDITATION

PRELUDE

CHIMING THE HOUR

CHORAL INTROIT

Canon

Vierne