

The 1st Sunday in Advent 2018

THE GATHERING

Ringing the 1887 Bell

Carillon Processional

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" setting, Wilbur Held

* Call to Worship

One: There will be signs in the heavens and distress among the nations.

All: When Christ returns in power and glory people will faint with fear.

One: But when you see these things, lift up your heads:

All: our redemption is drawing near!

One: Heaven and earth may pass away,

All: but the Word of God will stand unshaken.

* Opening Hymn #140 "Once in Royal David's City"

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

Holy One, you have promised us that the day of our salvation is near. Keep us faithful in love and watchful in prayer, so that we may stand with confidence and joy at the coming of Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

Call to Confession

One: Jesus said, Do not let your hearts be weighed down by the sins and worries of this life, but watch and pray for the grace of God, who will save you in your time of trial. With confidence in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God.

One: May the Lord guide your way, strengthen you in all holiness, and make you abound in love for one another and for all.

* Response #126 "Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child"

* The Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you. (*Take a moment to greet each other with the peace of Christ*)

Hymn #487 "These Treasured Children" vs. # 1 & 2

Time for Young Disciples

Rev. Meggan Farwell

All: You're beautiful! God loves you! And we love you too!

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination (*unison*)

God our salvation, there is wisdom, peace, and joy for those who keep your Word. By the power of your Holy Spirit, lead us in your truth and teach us to do your will; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Reading Jeremiah 33: 14-16 Pew Bible – OT p.738

Scripture Reading Psalm 25: 1-10 Pew Bible – OT p.502

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Choir Anthem "Prepare the Way of the Lord!" Lloyd Larson

Scripture Reading 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13 Pew Bible – NT p.204

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Pack Your Bags" Rev. Dr. Luke Farwell

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* Affirmation of Faith Apostles' Creed Hymnal, pg. 35

* Hymn #129 "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of Bread and Wine (*See "Welcome to Worship" card in the pew rack for instructions*)

Communion Prayer

* Please stand as you are able

Bold type indicates text to be spoken or song to be sung by the congregation.

