

OUR LORD CALLS US TO WORSHIP HIM

Lighting of the First Advent Candle Membership of Doug & Debbie Maxwell

† Pastor: Let us worship God! We are gathered in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Let us give thanks to the Lord.

Congregation: We give thanks to the Lord.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined.

There will come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse; and a Branch shall grow out of his roots.

Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.

Isaiah 9:2 & 60:1

Lift up your hearts...

We lift them up to the Lord!

† COLLECT & 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 have forgiven 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.

+ Congregational Singing Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus—219

OUR LORD CLEANSES US FROM OUR SIN

A Corporate Reading of Our Lord's Instruction

To You I lift up my eyes, O You who are enthroned in the heavens!

Behold, as the eyes of servants *look* to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes *look* to the LORD our God, until He is gracious to us.

Be gracious to us, O LORD, be gracious to us, for we are greatly filled with contempt.

Our soul is greatly filled with the scoffing of those who are at ease, *and* with the contempt of the proud.

Psalm 123

AN INVITATION TO CONFESS OUR SINS:

or **and a state**

‡ CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER We Confess Our Sins, Together & Individually

Heavenly Father, we come to You as a righteous Judge and as the One who is filled with mercy. You are high and lofty. You inhabit eternity. Your name is holy. You also dwell with those who are contrite and of humble spirit. In Your holiness and compassion, be merciful to us and forgive us our sins. Our mouths reveal our hearts, and our hearts have not been shaped by Your Spirit as they ought. We are quick to speak ill of others; we backbite, gossip, and hold grudges. We engage in sinful speech and neglect that which pleases You, strengthens others, and shows that we have received Your grace. Forgive us for these sins. Grant us Your grace. Revive the spirit of the humble and restore the contrite. Hear our prayers and forgive us the sins we now confess to You...

[We pause in prayer, and then conclude together...]

O Lord, we give You thanks for Your kindness and abundant pardon; provided through Your Son who has died for us, taking the penalty which was our due, and You have received us in Him. Now grant, most merciful Lord, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, and this to the glory of Thy holy name. Amen.

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God-415

† ABSOLUTION: Our Assurance of Forgiveness is declared "In the Name of God the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit" "Thanks be to God!"

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel_227



THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH We join together praying for the church, one another, and the world

OUR LORD TEACHES US FROM HIS WORD

Scripture Lesson from the Old Testament Isaiah 64:1-9 Scripture Lesson from the Epistles 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24

"This is the Word of the Lord" "Thanks be to God!"

† Gospel Lesson—John 1:1-8

"This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ" "Praise be to Christ!"

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: Gloria Patri-436

Sermon Text Acts 4:32-37

Sermon Generosity and the Gospel Pastor Steve Jeffery

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: Of the Father's Love Begotten-246 (vv. 1-4)

‡ The congregation is invited to kneel

⁺ The congregation is invited to stand

IN GRATEFUL RESPONSE

We Present the Lord's Tithes & Our Offerings

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: *The Doxology* As the offering is brought forward, we lift our hearts, hands, and voices in thankful praise...

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dedication

OUR LORD INVITES US TO HIS TABLE

We Confess Our Faith: The Apostles' Creed

+ Pastor: Christians, in whom do you believe?

I believe in God the Father Almighty; maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord, He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hades. On the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, The communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

> The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper We commune with the Lord & with one another

The Lord's Supper should be observed in individual homes.

+ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: Of the Father's Love Begotten-247 (vv. 5-7)

OUR LORD COMMISSIONS US

Prayer for and Blessing of the Children

† Benediction & Singing

Doxology from Of the Father's Love Begotten (p. 247)

Christ, to Thee with God the Father, and O Holy Ghost to Thee, Hymn and chant with high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be: Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, Evermore and evermore! Amen.

TODAY

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR

New Members - Doug & Debbie Maxwell will be presented for membership just prior to our service.

Prayer for and Blessing of the Children – Just before the end of our service, we will invite the children (about 12 and younger) forward for a special time of prayer, encouragement, and blessing.

THIS WEEK

Midweek at All Saints

Join us in the Fellowship Hall Wednesday evenings for a meal, a time of singing, and Bible study. Please refer to the email sign-up to RSVP for dinner. Contact Pastor Shaw with any questions.

5:30 - 6:15 p.m. - Dinner provided by the church

6:15 - 7:00 p.m. – Understanding the Psalms, led by Pastor Jeffery

7:00 - 7:45 p.m. - Learn to Sing Your Part, led by Nathan Whittlesey

NEXT SUNDAY

Baptism and Reception - Lincoln Cross Turner will be baptized at the beginning of our service next week. A reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall after our service.

PLEASE NOTE

Pregnancy Help Center of Fort Worth – Giving Response

During Advent and through Epiphany we will be gathering items to support the Pregnancy Help Center of Fort Worth. Particular items of need this year - for babies: diapers, baby wash, pacifiers, baby toys & books, and baby clothes; for moms: Bibles, socks, chapstick, maternity clothes, lotion, and gift cards for gas or food. Strollers and playpens are always great as well. Donations can be placed in the back corner of the foyer by the main entrance. Gathering items begins today.

Parents, diaper changing facilities can be found in the second floor restrooms and are available for your convenience.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Lessons and Carols – Friday, December 22, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Gloria Sancta – January 3-6, 2024 at Timberline Camp and Conference Center. Registration

now open. Gloria Sancta is a retreat for Christian young adults ages 18-28. This year's teaching will be provided by Pastor Randy Booth (Grace Covenant, Nacogdoches, TX), Pastor Rob Hadding (Covenant Presbyterian, Sulphur, LA), Pastor Niell, and Pastor Jeffery. Register soon at https://www.gloriasancta.org while space is still available.



Today is the **First Sunday of Advent**. The *Advent* season marks the beginning of the Church year and begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. Advent means "coming" or "arrival" and refers to the First Advent of Jesus, the Messiah. The Advent Season is observed by the Church as a time of preparation, not only for Christmas, but also for the Second Advent of Jesus. We now live between the Advents, and this is a time of thankfulness and expectation. According to the Church calendar, the color for Advent is purple, signifying royalty, the royalty of Jesus who is the King of kings (1 Timothy 6:15), and ruler over the kings of the earth (Revelation 1:5).

ALL SAINTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 4629 Bryce Avenue | Fort Worth, Texas 76107 | 817-350-4455 | www.allsaintskirk.org deacons@allsaintskirk.org session@allsaintskirk.org Jeff Niell, Pastor Shawn Brandt, Nate Douglas, pastor@allsaintskirk.org Pastor Niell, Pastor Jeffery, Daniel Robinson, and Nathan Steve Jeffery, Pastor Pastor Shaw Whittlesey sj@allsaintskirk.org Elder Gene Capone Deacons-elect: Elder Tony Douglas Geoff Shaw, Pastor Noah Douglas, Justin Durst, gshaw@allsaintskirk.org Brandon (Kruz) Herrera, Kyle Hintze.

Administrative Assistant | Kim Lokey - admin@allsaintskirk.org

ADVENT

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

Psalm 51:10-12

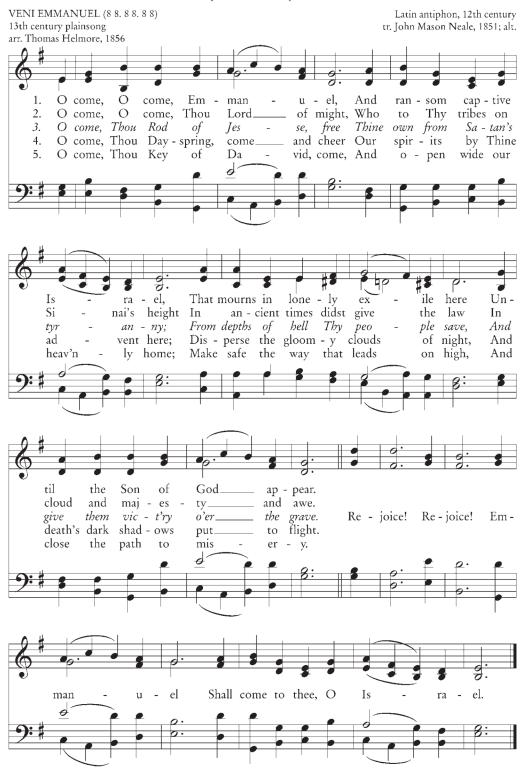
From a melody by J. A. Freylinghausen, 1704 adapted, Harold W. Gilbert



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ADVENT

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



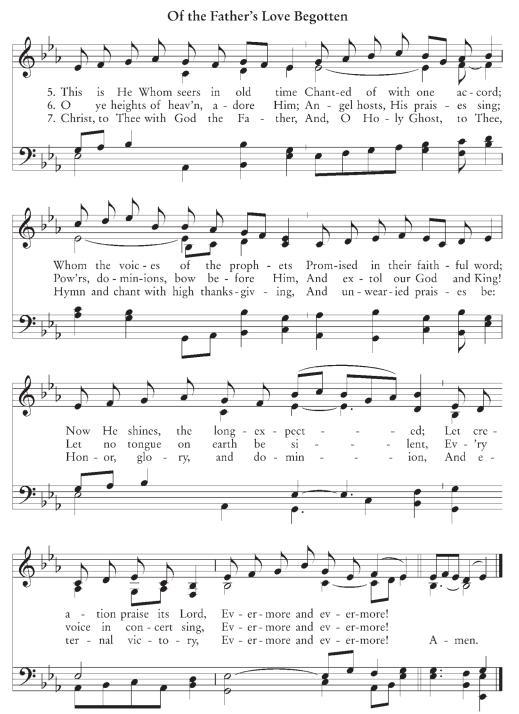
Gloria Patri



Of the Father's Love Begotten



CHRISTMAS



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