



Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2015

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO WORSHIP GOD

CHIMING THE HOUR

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE DAY

CHILDREN'S MOMENT.....Rev. Mark E. Poindexter

(Children ages 3 yrs. - 2nd grade are invited to gather on the steps of the altar.) †

PRELUDE *O Come, Let Us Adore Him*

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE.....Nina and Stephen Milam

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE.....CH. 128 (vs. 4)

One Candle is Lit

*CALL TO WORSHIP.....Ivy Kelly

Leader: Before the majesty of God, we gather to worship;
in quiet expectation, we come to hear God's promises.

PEOPLE: **THIS IS WHERE WE BELONG; HERE WE ARE WARMLY GREETED.
SURELY GOD WILL FEED OUR DEEPEST HUNGER.**

Leader: Before God's strength and power, we bow down;
in hesitant anticipation, we listen for God's judgment.

PEOPLE: **THIS IS OUR HOME, WHERE OUR LIVES ARE REDIRECTED.
SURELY GOD WILL SHOW US NEW WAYS TO LIVE.**

Leader: Before the mercy of God, we lift our hearts;
in humble imagination, we welcome a new visitation.

UNISON: **THIS DAY GOD IS PRESENT WITH US; WE FEEL IT.
SURELY GOD IS PREPARING FOR US A TIME OF JOY.**

*WORSHIP HYMN.....CH. 150

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

*INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

Let Your face shine on us, mighty God. Break through the obstacles that keep us from seeing Your way. Melt down the barriers that keep us from knowing the embrace of Your love. Remove from us the low self-esteem that keep us from valuing the overwhelming gift of life that You entrust to us. Speak to us here in life-changing accents. We ask these in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray, saying, "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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever." Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI.....CH. 35

Glory Be to the Father

THE CHURCH PROCLAIMS THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING (pg. 756).....Micah 5:2-5a

ANTHEM *Let The Christ Child In*

SECOND READING (pg. 831).....Luke 1:39-55

MESSAGE.....Rev. Mark E. Poindexter

SILENT MEDITATION

MORNING PRAYER

THE CHURCH COMES TOGETHER AT THE LORD'S TABLE

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Thank You, God, for Your mercy and protection, for feeding us physically and spiritually, for caring for us like a shepherd. We present our offerings as an act of gratitude. What we can never repay we pause to appreciate. In the name of generosity we cannot match, we seek to be generous toward others. May these offerings do far more than support our church. We dedicate ourselves and these gifts to honor Christ through ministry in the world. Amen.

GIVE THANKS.....CH. 528

Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart

COMMUNION INVITATION

COMMUNION HYMN.....CH. 153

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

PRAYER FOR THE BREAD.....David McCrickard

PRAYER FOR THE CUP.....Mary Redmon

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

The Lord's Table is open for all people. Christ has set the table before us. It is by His invitation we are fed. You may eat the bread as it is passed and drink the cup at the conclusion of the Words of Institution.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE CHURCH GOES FORTH TO SERVE GOD IN MISSION

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

***HYMN OF INVITATION.....CH. 159**

There's a Song in the Air!

During the singing of the Hymn of Invitation, we invite anyone wishing to become a Christian or wishing to unite with this congregation, to please come forward.

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

‡ Children Preschool – 2nd grade may attend Children, Worship & Wonder
3rd – 8th grades attend LIVE BIG!

***PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE**

DIACONATE SERVING TODAY

Jimmy Jarvis, Sharon Jenson, Bubba Jenson, Pam Gibbs



*Thank you for worshipping at West Side Christian Church today.
We hope you received a blessing this morning, and that you will experience God's presence
in the week ahead. We look forward to seeing you next Sunday!*



The Welcome Loaf

We offer a homemade loaf of bread to first time visitors as an expression of our appreciation for your presence. Please see a greeter at the door following worship to receive your loaf.



West Side is a Global Ministries Church

West Side Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

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Zach Lowman, Youth Director***