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Second Sunday of Advent | December 10, 2023

\*Please stand as you are able

**Welcome and Announcements**

Trinity Chimes

**Prelude**  *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* arr. Billy Madison

Grant Lange, trumpet

\*Call to Worship:

One: Joy to the world the time is here

**All: to welcome peace again!**

One: So in our hearts, our lives, our homes

**All: Let us prepare the way of the Lord!**

\*Hymn of Praise 211 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive

Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here

until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

2. O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
and order all things far and nigh;  
to us the path of knowledge show  
and cause us in her ways to go.  
Refrain:

6. O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer

our spirits by thy justice here;

disperse the gloomy clouds of night,

and death’s dark shadows put to fight.

Refrain:

7. O come, Desire of nations bind

all peoples in one heart and mind.

From dust thou brought us forth to life;

deliver us from earthy strife.

Refrain:

Advent Candle Lighting: Cassandra Prescott and Earlene Ridge

Reader 1: For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven: a time for war and a time for peace;

Reader 2: A time for change and a time to cherish traditions.

Reader 1: Now in this time of hope, as we wait once more for the birth of Emmanuel, God with us.

*Light the Candle of Hope*

Reader 2: And in our waiting we call out for peace, peace in this time of war, peace in the midst of sorrow, peace that changes everything.

*Light the Candle of Peace*

**All: God with us, in the midst of changing times your Spirit washes over us with the waters of transformation, making us a new creation. Fill us once more with your Peace that surpasses understanding so that in this time of hope we might bear the mark of your kingdom to all the world. Amen.**

**Advent Hymn:** 209*Blessed Be the God of Israel*

MERLE’S TUNE

Now from the house of David a child of grace is given;

A Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven.

Before him goes the herald, forerunner in the way,

The prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.

**Scripture Reading** Isaiah 40:1-11

One: 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.

**All: 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 hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.**

One: Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh

shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

**All: A voice says, “Cry out!” and I said, “What shall I cry?”**

**All flesh is grass; their constancy is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers; the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. But the word of our God will stand forever.**

One: Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news;

lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, “here is your God!”

**All: See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules**

**for him;**

One: his reward is with him and his recompense before him.

**All: He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the**

**lambs in his arms and carry them in his bosom and gently lead the mother sheep.**

Music of Preparation *O come, O come, Emmanuel*

arr Kyle Pederson

Isabel Burgos-DeStephanis, cello

The Chancel Choir

Gospel Lesson Mark 1:1-8

Sermon As It Was Foretold

Music of Response

Prayers of the People

Confession and Pardon

Transforming God, in the days of old you sent heralds among us like John the Baptizer calling all to repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Today you have called us to remember our baptism. Our renunciation of the wicked powers of this world, our freedom to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in every form. We confess that we do not always put our whole trust in your grace, we do not serve the Lord in all we do, and welcome all with the peace of Christ. So we repent once more. Wash over us with your grace and forgiveness so that we might fully live by the power of the Holy Spirit, amen.

Pastor: Hear the Good News, the Holy Spirit works within you so that you may live in faith and peace. In the name of Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Christ, you are forgiven!

All: Glory to God, Amen!

The 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever, Amen.

\*Passing of the Peace

Invitation to Offering

Offering

Offertory *Jesus, You Are My Life* Fry/Hart

Grant Lange, trumpet

\*Doxology VENI EMMANUEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall Come to thee, O Israel

\*Offertory Prayer

\*Sending Hymn 213 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;  
behold, the King of glory waits;  
the King of kings is drawing near;  
the Savior of the world is here!  
  
2. Fling wide the portals of your heart;  
make it a temple, set apart  
from earthly use for heaven's employ,   
adorned with prayer and love and joy.  
  
3. Redeemer, come, with us abide;  
our hearts to thee we open wide;  
let us thy inner presence feel;  
thy grace and love in us reveal.  
  
4. Thy Holy Spirit lead us on  
until our glorious goal is won;  
eternal praise, eternal fame  
be offered, Savior, to thy name!

Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Postlude *Deck the Halls* arr. Stephen DeCesare

Grant Lange, trumpet

Thank you to all of the volunteers and staff who made this service possible!

Liturgist: Don Finch

Stephen Minister: Georgia Carmichael

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“O Come,O Come, Emmanuel”

Words: 9th cent. Latin trans. St. 1,3,5ab,6cd,7ab The Hymnal, 1940; st 2, Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916; st. 4,5cd,6ab,7cd, Laurence Hull Stookey 1986

“Blessed Be the God of Israel”

Words: Michael Perry, 1973 (Lk. 1:68-79)

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

Words: Georg Weissel, 1642; trans by Catherine Winkworkth, 1855 (Ps.24)

If you have any questions, please call the office: 520.327.1116 or

send us an e-mail: office@ccumtucson.org.

Our Staff contact information

John Neve - Bell Choir Director

[john@ccumtucson.org](mailto:john@ccumtucson.org)

Janet Tolman – Organist

janet@ccumtucson.org

Sinamar Respicio – Choir Director

[choir@ccumtucson.org](mailto:choir@ccumtucson.org)

Mary Beth Buttler – Communications

communications@ccumtucson.org

Candi Eppley – Office Administrator

[office@ccumtucson.org](mailto:office@ccumtucson.org)

Rev. Beth Rambikur

[pastor@ccumtucson.org](mailto:pastor@ccumtucson.org)