

Worshiping God at  
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church  
First Sunday of Advent  
November 27, 2022



---

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Teddie McConnell

Prelude

Seung-mee Oh

Introit

Chancel Choir

Call to Worship

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ (candle is lit).  
Advent means coming.

We are preparing ourselves for the days when the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

Opening Prayer

Pastor Teddie

Faithful God, out of war's chaos, you bring the order of peace. Renew us in hope, that we may work toward Christ's advent of peace among all nations.

Service parts in bold: Everyone speaks in unison.  
Parts with an asterisk: \* Please stand in body or in spirit.

\* Hymn #353

***My Hope is Built on Nothing Less***

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace; in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood; when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found, dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

\* Passing of the Peace

Pastor Teddie

Let us share the peace of God with each other, as we greet one another in the name of Christ.

Call to Confession (from Hebrews 4:14-16)

Roz

Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weakness, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in the time of need. Let us confess our sins against God and neighbor.

Prayer of Confession

Roz

**Holy God, remind us that you have formed us with your own hands, made us in your own image, and placed us in this world to be stewards of your good creation. Made for generous relationships, we have retreated into ourselves. Created for the purpose of making your goodness known, we allow lesser tasks to occupy our time. Forgive our failure to live in the way you made us to live. Renew within us the knowledge of your love so that we may live joyfully and gratefully, sharing what we have. For we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who offered himself for us, and opens to us the way of eternal life.**

*Please take time now for your own silent prayers. Amen.*

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor Teddie

With the coming of Christ, God has given us the gift of forgiveness, even seventy times seven. God reaches out to offer us new life, a new day, a chance to begin again — loved and beautiful, even as on the first day of creation. Believe the promise of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

\* Gloria Patri

Anthem

**"Advent Prayer" (by Patrick Liebergen)**

Chancel Choir

Call for the Offering

Pastor Teddie

We offer our individual gifts – our time, our talents, and our financial resources – to God; and those gifts become the church's gifts. And then the church offers them to the world. So with generous hearts, let us offer our gifts to the world.

Offering/ Offertory

Seung-mee

\* Doxology

\* Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Pastor Teddie

**Just as Elisha took up Elijah's mantle, and the disciples took up the ministry of Jesus, their teacher, we present these gifts that through them the church may take up the mantle of Christ and proclaim his transformative Word to the world through acts of justice and love. Amen.**

\* Affirmation of Faith (unison) (from the Confession of 1967)

Pastor Teddie

**In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all. The risen Christ is the Savior of all humanity. Those joined to him by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as his reconciling community. Christ is head of this community, the church, which begins with the apostles and continues through all generations. God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness.**

**But God reveals his love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinners. The power of God's love to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of his love.**

Sharing of Joys & Concerns / Prayers of the People / Lord's Prayer Greg Lee

Musical Reflection Seung-mee

Prayer for Illumination (unison) Roz

**Dear Lord, in the silence of our hearts, the listening of our ears, and the wisdom of our minds, may the word become Word for us, in Christ's name and by his power. Amen.**

First Scripture Lesson **Matthew 24:36-44** Roz

<sup>36</sup>“But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup> For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup> Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. <sup>42</sup> Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup> Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Scripture Lesson **Romans 13:11-14** Pastor Teddie

<sup>11</sup> Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup> the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup> let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

\* Hymn #88

***O Come, O Come, Emmanuel***

O Come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily: to us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Root of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny; from depths of hell thy people save and give them victory o'er the grave. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.

Benediction (2 Corinthians 13:13)

Pastor Teddie

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

## Sung Benediction

May the Lord, mighty God,  
bless and keep you forever;  
grant you peace, perfect peace,  
courage in every endeavor.  
Lift up your eyes and see God's face,  
full of grace forever;  
may the Lord, mighty God,  
bless and keep you forever.

## Fellowship Time

Come! Join us in the Fellowship Room for refreshments, snacks, and conversation following the worship service.