

Verse 4...And lead us not into temptation.
Hallowed be Thy name. But deliver us from all evil.
Hallowed be Thy name.

Verse 5... For Thine is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory. Hallowed be Thy name.
Forever and forevermore. Hallowed be Thy name.

Verse 6...Amen, amen, it shall be so.
Hallowed be Thy name. Amen, amen, it shall be so.
Hallowed be Thy name.

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--WORDS OF INSTITUTION

--SONGS FOR DISTRIBUTION

“Emmanuel (Hallowed Manger Ground)” (Matthew 1:23)

Verse 1...What hope we hold this starlit night: a King is born in
Bethlehem. Our journey long, we seek the light that leads to the
hallowed manger ground.

Verse 2...What fear we felt in the silent age, four hundred years can
He be found? But broken by a Baby’s cry; rejoice in the hallowed
manger ground.

Chorus...Emmanuel, Emmanuel, God incarnate, here to dwell.
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Praise His name, Emmanuel.

Verse 3...The Son of God, here, born to bleed; a crown of thorns
would pierce His brow. And we beheld this offering, exalted now,
the King of kings, praise God for the hallowed manger ground.

*Sing Chorus twice, then...*Praise His name, Emmanuel.

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“Jesus, Name Above All Names”

(Matthew 1:21-23; Luke 1:31-33; Philippians 2:9-11; 2 Thessalonians 1:32)

Verse 1...Jesus, name above all names; beautiful Savior, glorious
Lord, Emmanuel, God is with us; blessed Redeemer, Living Word.

Verse 2...Jesus, loving Shepherd, Vine of the branches, Son of
God, Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor, Lord of the universe,
Light of the world.

Verse 3...Jesus, Way of Salvation, King of kings, Lord, of lords, the
Way, the Truth, and the Life, Mighty Creator, My Savior and Friend.

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--COMMUNION DISMISSAL

P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and
preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting.
Depart + in peace.

--BENEDICTION

P. The grace of our + Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C. Amen.**

--CLOSING SONG “Nativity Scene”

Verse 1...In a town on a hill, on a cold winter’s day, stood a stable
where livestock did stay. With the inn rooms all full, and a manger
of hay, Mary gave birth, her Infant to lay.

Chorus...How I love that Nativity scene, and God’s star shining its
guiding beam. Angel choirs sang of God’s glorious dream,
Son of God one and all to redeem.

Verse 2...To old Bethlehem came, shepherds from hills around, sent
by angels, they looked through the town. And in swaddling clothes
there, in a manger laid down, the Descendant of David they found.

Chorus...

Verse 3...In the fullness of time, God did send forth His Son, born
with our flesh and blood, He’s the one. Our redemption from sin,
He this for us has won, and adoption by God is now done. Chorus...

Verse 4...In these days wise men still, follow heaven’s good light,
God’s guidance through shadows and night. For to worship the
King, the Most High is so right, here’s the reason the season is
bright! Chorus...

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P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God!

***** TO GOD BE THE GLORY *****

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THE CONNECTION

December 15, 2024 10:30am

The Sacrament Of The Altar will be celebrated at the 10:30 AM
service. Anyone who is not yet instructed, in doubt or holds a
differing confession and yet desires to receive the Sacrament, is
asked first to speak with a Pastor, Elder or Worship Assistant.

--PRESERVICE SONG “Messiah”

--ANNOUNCEMENTS

--WORSHIP SONG “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

Verse 1...O come, O come, Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel.
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appears.

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

Verse 2...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.

Chorus...

Verse 3...O come Desire of nations bind in one the hearts of all
mankind. Bid Thou our sad divisions cease and be Thyself our
King of Peace.

Chorus...

Bridge...Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel has come!
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel has come!
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel has come!

Repeat Verse 1 and Chorus...

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(Please stand)

--INVOCATION

P. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the
Holy Spirit.

C. Amen

--CONFESSION OF SINS

P. Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C. Most merciful God, in Your kindness and love You have saved us. You've rescued us from the coldness of our sin. Yet, we still struggle to share Your warmth in our daily living. Our thoughts don't always follow Your thoughts. Our ways often stray from Your ways. We sin against not only You, but against our neighbors, as well. Forgive us, dear Lord. Wrap us securely in Your love and lead us in Your good ways. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

--FORGIVENESS OF SINS

P. Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you and for His sake He forgives you. As a called and ordained servant of the Lord, and on His behalf, I say to you, "You are forgiven." In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C. Amen**

--STATEMENT OF FAITH *Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. 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 thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen *(Please sit)*

--FIRST LESSON *Zephaniah 3:14-20*

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! ¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. ¹⁷The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. ¹⁸I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. ¹⁹Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the LORD.

L. Here ends the first reading.

--SECOND LESSON *Philippians 4:4-7*

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

L. Here ends the second reading.

(Please stand)

--GOSPEL LESSON *Luke 7:18-28*

¹⁸The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, ¹⁹calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ²⁰And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'" ²¹In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. ²²And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. ²³And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

²⁴When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ²⁵What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. ²⁶What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷This is he of whom it is written,

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you."

²⁸I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

P. Here ends the reading of the Gospel.

(Please sit)

--CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

--OFFERING / MESSAGE SONG "Mighty to Save"

Verse 1... Ev'ryone needs compassion, a love that's never failing. Let mercy fall on me. Ev'ryone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a Savior, the hope of nations.

Chorus... Savior, He can move the mountains. My God is mighty to save. He is mighty to save. Forever, Author of salvation, He rose and conquered the grave. Jesus conquered the grave.

(continued...)

Verse 2... So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures; fill my life again. I give my life to follow ev'rything I believe in. Now, I surrender. Yes, I surrender. *Chorus.*

Bridge... Shine your light and let the whole world see we're singing for the glory of the risen King Jesus. Shine your light and let the whole world see we're singing for the glory of the risen King. *Chorus...*

Chorus 2... You're my Savior; You can move the mountains. God, You are mighty to save. You are mighty to save. Forever, Author of salvation, You rose and conquered the grave. Yes, You conquered the grave. You are mighty to save.

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--MESSAGE OF THE DAY

"TURN FROM EVIL AND BEAR GOOD FRUIT"

(Text: Matthew 3:8) The Rev. Peter Gueldner

(Please stand)

--PRAYERS

(Sung at beginning of prayers)

"The Spirit Intercedes For Us" *(Romans 8:26)*

The Spirit intercedes for us,
With sighs too deep for words to express, oh, oh, oh.

*The pastor will conclude the prayers with:
"Holy Spirit, in our weakness, help us to pray..."*

(Sung at end of the prayers)

"The Spirit Intercedes For Us" *(Romans 8:26)*

The Spirit intercedes for us,
With sighs too deep for words to express, oh, oh, oh.

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--THE LORD'S PRAYER---Caribbean *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

Verse 1... Our Father who art in heaven. Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done. Hallowed be Thy name.

Verse 2... As in heaven, so on the earth. Hallowed be Thy name. Give us this day our daily bread. Hallowed be Thy name.

Verse 3... And forgive us, Lord, our trespasses. Hallowed be Thy name. As we forgive those who trespass against us. Hallowed be Thy name. *(continued...)*