

“The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise: I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness.”

-Jeremiah 33:14a, 15

GATHERING MUSIC

Dr. Bill Holda

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

“Something Which is Known”

GREGORY NORBET, O.S.B.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

When will God’s promise be fulfilled?

The days are surely coming.

When will we be saved?

The days are surely coming.

How will we know when the signs will take place?

The days are surely coming

**when a branch from David shall come forth
to execute justice and righteousness in the land.**

What shall it be called?

The Lord is our righteousness.

Let us worship God!

***HYMN – No. 102**

“Savior of the Nations, Come”

KOMM, HEILAND

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

Advent means coming.

We are preparing ourselves for the days proclaimed by Isaiah.

**When the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nations shall not lift up sword against nations,
nor shall they learn war anymore.**

Children of God, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

***HYMN – No. 88**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (verse 1)

EMMANUEL

***CALL TO AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of the future, you are coming into power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.

(A time for prayer and confession in silence)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

I declare to you that we are forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ.

We declare to you also, in the same mercy of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

May the God of mercy, who forgives all of our sins, strengthen us in all goodness

and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep us in eternal life.

This is the good news!

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

Our old life has gone; our new life has begun in resurrection hope!

May we always know that we are forgiven, and may forgive one another, and, finally, be at peace in our Lord. **Amen.**

***SHARING IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

(Sharing the Peace of Christ and greeting one another in fellowship)

ENGAGING WITH THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

reader, Quita Russell

Faithful God, your promises stand unshaken through all generations.

Renew us in hope, and by your word, this day, stir within our spirits and bones.

May we always be awake and alert, watching for the glorious return of Jesus Christ, our judge and savior, now and always. Amen.

SCRIPTURE TEXTS

Hebrew Lesson: Psalm 33

Holy wisdom, holy words.

The word of the Lord is full of grace and truth; thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson: John 1:1-14

Now God has spoken to us through Jesus Christ the Son.

Thanks be to you, O Christ; thanks be to God.

HYMN— No. 459

“O Word of God Incarnate”

MUNICH

Old Testament Lesson: Hebrews 1:1-9

The Lord bless the reading of these words.

The Lord bless the hearing of these words; thanks be to God.

SERMON

“The Medium is the Message”

Rev. Kenny Rigoulot

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH-** A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death, we belong to God.

**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God,
the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

**Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and
blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent
and believe the gospel. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.**

**In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God’s image,
male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.**

**We trust in God, the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ
in our daily tasks and live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s
new heaven and earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

GIVE THANKS UNTO THE LORD

CALL FOR OFFERING TO GOD

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Cissy Ward

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise you, great God,

for you are ruler of the universe and have sent your Son to be King of kings.

Eternal God, you taught us that the night is far spent, and the day is at hand.

Keep us awake and alert, watching for your kingdom, and make us strong in faith so that when Christ comes in glory to judge the earth, we may joyfully praise him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Worship leader and congregation will lift up additional prayers)

***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 debts, as we forgive 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.

GOING FORTH TO LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN – No. 128**

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

“Savior of the Nations, Come”

JOHANN HEINRICH BUTTSTEDT

Welcome friends! May the welcome you feel here be worthy of the gracious God that we serve. In this service, an asterisk (*) invites you to stand as health allows. Material printed in **bold** is for the congregation to sing or say. Let us worship God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome Kenny Rigoulot, the executive director of development and spiritual formation at Camp Gilmont. He is excited about doing all that he can to invite others to grow closer to God, creation, others, and themselves. As an ordained pastor in the Presbyterian Church (USA), Kenny loves to preach, teach, and worship and has fun with people of all ages.

Wednesday Night Live dinner is served at 6 p.m. Please call or email the church office by noon on Tuesday. The cost is \$10 for adults, with reduced prices for children. This week's menu includes meatloaf, sides, salad, dessert, and a drink.

Recently, the **Fellowship hallway doors were left mechanically unlocked**. If there is a problem with the doors not being unlocked when needed, please do not use an allen key to unlock! Report the issue to the Church office and temporarily use the doorstep to prop the door open if required.

As the year ends, we remember the cherished friends, loved ones, and family who have passed. To honor their memory, consider a gift to **Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church's Memorial Fund**, supporting the church's mission. We thank Tom and Robin Burns for generously planting a maple tree in Bill Gammans' memory.

Beginning December 4, we invite you to join us for special Advent Services each Wednesday at 6:50 p.m., following the Wednesday Night Live meal in the fellowship hall. This time of worship is a wonderful opportunity to center our hearts and minds as we prepare for the joy of Christmas.

Our Christmas Eve service will include a small choir and handbell ringers. **We invite St. Andrew and Community UMC members to participate with singing and bell ringing.** We will have a brief 15-minute rehearsal following worship on December 8, December 15, and December 22. You do not need to read music or have played bells previously. Bring your talents and service as a Christmas Gift to one another.

www.standrewpres.org

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