

Worship Guide

Preparing for Public Worship: Part 6

The Diet of the Christian: Thankfulness and Fellowship

WE AS CHRISTIANS SHOULD GREATLY DESIRE TO BE with each other in fellowship. One of the greatest comforts during life, whether it is angst, strife, trials, or Persecution is to be with another friend, family member, or spouse who you can confide in and relate with and support. We might have secular friends, those whom we treat as our neighbors and as image bearers, or church friends, those who we see on Sunday morning and evening or Wednesday night.

Have you stopped to consider the significance of giving thanks for the kingdom of God? It is a great Trinitarian blessing to have brothers and sister in Christ. How much more do we give thanks throughout the week for their aid and graciousness? But, there may be tendency to separate the day-to-day secular life and church life. In actuality, Paul exhorts us to be in fellowship with the saints with all thankfulness: “Give thanks in all circumstances: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you: (I Thess. 5:18); “Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving: (Col. 4:2); “And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful” (Col. 3:15). This echos the myriad of verses in the Old Testament exhorting believers to give thanks for the works of God: “Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!” (Ps. 107:1): “Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!” (I Chron. 16:34).

But, we should also be in fellowship with God. One of the ways that we commune with Him is when we commune with other believers. Have you thought of inviting friends of the church over for dinner? For games? For dessert? For coffee? For playdates? It is a joy to be with others who are in the faith, and perhaps the most important relationships we can have are these. God cherishes the richness of this relationship by giving us hope, unity, and security as we build up one another in faithfulness. Then, when we come to church on the Lord’s Day, we better magnify the beauty of Christ by having prepared ourselves with thankfulness and fellowship with the body of believers. Thanks be to God that He has not left us alone to belabor this world! We have Christ and His church!

Sermon Notes

And Shall Call His Name Immanuel

Isaiah 7:14

Our Lord Jesus Christ is Immanuel

I. The Promise of Immanuel: Is. 7:14

II. The fulfillment of Immanuel: Mt. 1:21-23

Coming Up:

12/17/23 PM Service:

*Eliphaz: The Scandal of
Redemptive Suffering*
Job 15

12/24/23 AM Service:

The Incarnation of Jesus Christ
Matthew 1:18-25

Church Officers

Session:

Armor.Session@gmail.com
Gary Goeddertz, ruling elder
Jonathan Bergmann, ruling elder
LeRoy Osborn, ruling elder, clerk
Jonathan Hunt, teaching elder, moderator
Aaron Masters, elder nominee

Diaconate:

Armor.Deacons@gmail.com
Rick Hunt
Caleb Henning, clerk
Rick Weber, moderator
Jonathan Rogers, diaconal treasurer



The Lord’s Day Morning

Sunday, December 17, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
The Reverend Mr. Leonard Gulstrom, *Presiding*
Ruling Elder Mr. Gary Goeddertz, *Assisting*

The Silent Preparation

The Announcements

The Greeting and Call to Worship

1 Chronicles 16:11

* The Hymn of Praise

Go Tell it on the Mountain

see bulletin

* The Prayer of Invocation and Adoration

* The Reading of the Law and Confession of Sin

Exodus 20:3; Leviticus 24:17; Mark 10:19-21; Micah 7:9

see bulletin

* The Gospel Promise

Matthew 11:28-29

see bulletin

* The Response of Thanksgiving

Psalm 75:1

see bulletin

* The Doxology

* The Pastoral Prayer

The Old Testament Reading

Leviticus 24:1-9

The New Testament Reading

John 3:22-36

* The Prayer of Thanksgiving

* The Worship of God with Our Offerings

* The Psalms of Preparation

Psalm 1:1-6 – *That Man is Blessed*

Psalm 1A

Psalm 22:27-31 – *All Ends of Earth Will Turn to Him*

Psalm 22E

The Prayer of Illumination

The Preaching of God’s Word

And Shall Call His Name Immanuel
Isaiah 7:14

* The Prayer of Application

* The Song of Response

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

see bulletin

* The Benediction

* The Gloria Patri

* — Please stand as you are able. Following Scriptural principle for public prayer (Neh. 9:2-4, 2 Chron. 20:5-13; Mark 11:25), we follow in the footsteps of the early church and our Presbyterian heritage in standing for most of the public prayers.

Giving:	Budget Requirements:
12/10/23\$7,432.30	Weekly \$5,607.00

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Ref. Go, tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - erywhere;

go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born.

1. While shepherds kept their watching o'er si-lent flocks by night, be -
 2. The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! a - bove the earth rang
 3. Down in a low - ly man-ger our humble Christ was born, and

hold, throughout the heavens there shone a ho - ly light.
 out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
 God sent us sal - va - tion that bles - sed Christmas morn.

GO TELL IT irreg.
 Spiritual

From The Trinity Hymnal
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The Reading of the Law

Exodus 20:13; Leviticus 24:17; Mark 10:19-21

“You shall not murder.”

“Whoever takes a human life shall surely be put to death.”

“You know the commandments: ‘Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.’” And he said to Him, “Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth.” And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

The Confession of Sin

Micah 7:9

I will bear the indignation of the Lord because I have sinned against Him, until He pleads my cause and executes judgment for me. He will bring me out to the light; I shall look upon His vindication.

The Gospel Promise

Matthew 11:28-29

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

The Response of Thanksgiving

Psalms 75:1

We give thanks to You, O God; we give thanks, for Your name is near. We recount Your wondrous deeds.

Announcements

Join us for the **4PM Service** where we will be celebrating the Lord’s Supper.

The Men of the church are invited to a **Men’s Prayer Group** at the church on Mondays and in the Northtowns on Wednesdays both at 5:30 am.

Join us Wednesday for **Prayer Meeting** at 6 pm.

On Sunday, December 31st, we will have our **5th Sunday Fellowship** and Church Update following the Morning Service. **Please sign up** at the table in the Foyer for what you would like to bring. There will be **NO** Children’s Sunday School that morning.

Armor will be hosting a Psalm Sing on Friday, January 12th at 6:30 pm. There will be a fellowship to follow. **Please sign up** at the table in the foyer to bring a dish to share with our guests. You may register for the even on our website, or using the QR code on the Special Events board. See Aaron Masters with any questions.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
 2. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, who to Thy tribes, on
 3. O come, Thou Rod of Jes - se, free Thine own from Sa - tan's
 4. O come, Thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us by Thy

Is - ra - el that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 Si - nai's height, in an - cient times didst give the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple save,
 draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,

un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
 and death's dark shadows put to flight.

Em - man - u - el shall come to Thee, O Is - ra - el!

Latin antiphons, 12th cent.
 Latin hymn, 1710
 Tr. by John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. 1961
 From The Trinity Hymnal (Rev.) 1990

Veni Emmanuel. L.M. ref.
 Plainsong, 13th cent.
 Arr. by Thomas Helmore, 1856
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Nursery – Dec 17th – Amy B & Christine S
 Dec 24th – Hannah & Rebecca N

Ushers – Dec 17th AM – Chris, Ethan, Noah B; PM – Colton B
 Dec 24th AM –; PM – Wyatt B

Mission of the Month: Ben & Heather Hopp

The Hopps are laboring in Haiti. Ben accepted a call to serve as the Regional Foreign Missionary to Africa and Haiti beginning in March 2024. The Hopps will live with the OPC’s Uganda Mission, from which Ben will conduct his labors.