



CARMICHAEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 1, 2024

Livestream & In-Person

10:00 a.m.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Keith L. DeVries

Click [HERE](#) to register your attendance

MOMENT FOR CPC

Madrigal Concert

Lisa Benadom

* GREETING ONE ANOTHER

PRELUDE

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

French Melody

Alex Moborez, horn and Jonathan Doram, organ

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Elise Treon

Leader: Now begins the time of watching and waiting.

People: The time of pregnant expectation of new life.

Leader: Now begins the season of hope unfolding.

People: The dark winter season when hope is waiting to be born.

Leader: Children of God, pay attention! The days are coming when God's peace will reign and all creation will flourish.

People: The days are surely coming and are already here! We prepare our hearts to pay attention and to follow God's call to renewal.

1 The days are sure - ly com - ing, says God to all the earth,
2 The days are sure - ly com - ing, says Christ, the prom - ised one,
3 The days are sure - ly com - ing when we will know at last

when you will see my prom - ise: sal - va - tion come to birth.
when you will read my warn - ing in moon and stars and sun.
the full - ness of God's pres - ence, God's prom - ise, come to pass.

My righ - teous - ness and jus - tice will spread through - out the land
Though earth and heav - en trem - ble, stand up and do not fear,
Then righ - teous - ness and jus - tice will spread through - out the land

and you will be de - liv - ered by my al - might - y hand.
for I am your re - deem - er, and I am draw - ing near.
and we will be de - liv - ered by God's al - might - y hand.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Elise Treon

Leader: While there are many with power in our world - power to hurt us, power to hire or fire us, power to control us - only God has the power to forgive us and make us new people. Let us confess how we are broken, and welcome the power of God's grace.

All: **You walk beside us and transform us into agents of love, so forgive us, O Creator, when we fail to be thankful for your creation. Forgive us, O Christ, when we wallow in our own weakness and take advantage of the weakness of others. Forgive us, O Spirit, when we deny your friendship and withhold your compassion from others.**

Silence

Leader: The good news in Christ is that when we face ourselves and God with the awareness of our need, we are given grace to grow, and courage to continue the journey.

People: **With hearts open and resolve renewed, we move forward with hope.**

* RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

"Wait for the Lord"

No. 90
Glory to God

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in a 3/2 time signature with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!" The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady accompaniment in the bass line.

ADVENT READING FROM THE PROPHET JEREMIAH

Reader: "The days are surely coming," says the Lord, "when

People: I will fulfill the promise

Reader: I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time

People: I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David,

Reader: and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days

People: Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety.

Reader: And this is the name by which it will be called:

People: The Lord is our righteousness."

Reader: We stand in awe of a light that endures, a steady glow through the dimmest days. We draw near to the God who waits with grace, filling us with hope in every season. With hearts ignited, we work and wait for liberative justice, trusting that it shines beyond even the deepest shadows. Though our flames may falter, we press on, for God-is-with-us — Emmanuel is near.

TIME FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

*(All children are invited to the front of the church.
Afterwards, they may return to their seats
to participate in the remainder of worship and Communion
or go to Christmas Pageant rehearsal.)*

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

SERMON

God's Future Present

Pastor Ivan N. Herman

* SONG

“Even So Come”

Chris Tomlin, Jess Cates,
and Jason Ingram

All of creation, all of the earth,
Make straight a highway, a path for the Lord
Jesus is coming soon

Call back the sinner, wake up the saint
Let every nation shout out Your name
Jesus is coming soon

Like a bride waiting for her groom,
We'll be a Church ready for You
Every heart longing for our King, we sing
Even so come, Lord Jesus, come
Even so come, Lord Jesus, come

There will be justice, all will be new
Your name forever, faithful and true
Jesus is coming soon

Like a bride waiting for her groom,
We'll be a Church ready for You
Every heart longing for our King, we sing
Even so come, Lord Jesus, come
Even so come, Lord Jesus, come

So we wait. We wait for You
God, we wait. You're coming soon.
So we wait. We wait for You
God, we wait. You're coming soon.

Like a bride waiting for her groom,
We'll be a Church ready for You
Every heart longing for our King, we sing
Like a bride waiting for her groom,
We'll be a Church ready for You
Every heart longing for our King, we sing
Even so come, Lord Jesus, come
Even so come, Lord Jesus, come

COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor: The sacred unfolding of these four gifts — hope, peace, love, and joy — in their unvarnished glory, will flip our political and socioeconomic culture on its head, ushering in a new vision of community that's more flush with justice than we've ever dreamed, as it invites everyone to the table, which causes us to scramble for more chairs.

Come to think of it, maybe searching for ways to extend the table is precisely what Advent is supposed to be about.

WORDS OF REMEMBERING

Pastor: We remember that Jesus was always about more chairs – for the “friendly beasts” whose manger fed him, the birds that never fall unloved, and the comforting animals of his forty wilderness days.

Jesus was always about more chairs, for the poor, lonely, grieving, hungry, the most vulnerable and rejected, and even those deep in deserved regret.

And we remember that Jesus sat in the chairs of anyone who welcomed him. He came to tables and asked for food, not to see the guest list. He knew how multiply barley loaves and how to grill fish.

In this sacrament we remember that the starlit Child, protected by angels grew up to offer bread and cup to a betrayer, a denier, a doubter, several sleepers, and many who fled because at the cross there were no angels.

We remember that Jesus is the Bread and Cup for those of us who know the blessing of this holy meal. We remember that this is God's table, and the Divine One is still adding more chairs, making room so that more ... even all can come, sit, rest, eat.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Emmanuel, God with us, in the hopes and fears of all our years, we thank you that you are our hope for today and that you reassure us your blessing is for every day that has been and every day that is still to come.

Bless our hands and the Bread in them.

Bless our lips and the Cup we lift to drink.

May this Bread and Cup be all your holy life, that we may ponder gratitude in our hearts.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF COMMUNION

If you are worshiping via live stream, place a plate with bread or crackers and a cup with juice, wine, water, or other common beverage in your home worship space.

If you are worshiping in person, please come down the center aisle to receive the communion elements; partake and return to your seat using the side aisles. Ushers will bring communion to the seats of those who cannot come forward.

COMMUNION MUSIC

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: Peace-giver, Blessor of tables shared and some tables turned over, we rise or roll from our places at this most welcoming meal prepared anew to live Advent hospitality, by becoming your chair-people, not leaders, but ushers and servers for the worldwide banquet of grace. Amen.

OFFERING AND PRAYER

OFFERTORY

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

arr. Mark Hayes

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

(If you would like to privately share a concern, thanksgiving, or request for healing, please come to the Stephen Ministry banner on the east wall of the Sanctuary immediately following the service for individual prayer with a Stephen Minister.)

* CLOSING SONG

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Plainsong

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 Dayspring, from on high
And cause Thy light on us to rise
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, O come, true prophet of the Lord
And turn the key to heaven's door
Be Thou our comforter and guide
And leave us to the Father's side

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall by His Word our darkness dispel

O come, Thou King of nations, bring
An end to all our suffering
Bid every pain and sorrow cease
And reign now as our Prince of Peace

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come again with us to dwell

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE **“The Lord Whom We Love”**
Congregation may join hands

Kurt Kaiser

The Lord whom we love, whom we wor-ship and a-
dore, we will serve through - out this com-ing week. He it
is who binds us to-geth-er, and he it is who sends us a -
part, to be God's peo-ple, be God's peo-ple. A - men.

* POSTLUDE

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

Communion Liturgy by Maren Tirabassi, quoting at length from Todd Jenkins' longer poem "Advent(ure)"(used by permission) Adapted.
<https://giftsinopenhands.wordpress.com/>
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Audio/Video: Michael Gray and Noor Bitar
Music Director: Keith Atwater
Guest Pianist: Jonathan Doram
Piano: Gabe Bisho
Drums: Will Condrey
Guitar: Michael Schwab
Bass: Merlyn van Regenmorter
Vocalists: Karen Gray, Anita Lawson, and Laura Leek

