

# The Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2019

10:00 AM Service

Holy Communion



639 Edgewater Drive • Dunedin, FL 34698

(727) 733-4125 • Pastor Becky's cell: (727) 458-2625

www.COGSDunedin.com

E-Mail the church office: [info@cogsdunedin.com](mailto:info@cogsdunedin.com)

Sunday Services at 8 and 10 AM • Wed. Service at 10 AM • Sat. Service at 5 PM

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## WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

**If you are new to our congregation:** Please let us know by getting a name tag at the Welcome Center outside and completing a newcomer card, found either at the Welcome Center or in the pew rack in front of you.

**Childcare is available:** During the service, infants to age 5 are welcome in the Nursery, located on the first floor of the education wing, accessed through the double doors by the elevator.

**Restrooms:** Handicap-accessible restrooms are located to the right as you go up the ramp through the archway across from the doors of the sanctuary.

**If you read music:** if there is a number next to the title of the hymn, the music will be in our blue Hymnal, which is in the pew rack. Hymn numbers with an "S" in front are in the front section of the Hymnal, all others are sequential in the main section.

**We have gluten-free wafers available:** Please tell us when you come to the altar rail.

**Getting to know each other:** Following the service we welcome **everyone** for coffee and refreshments in Kirk Hall, which is up the ramp archway across from the doors of the sanctuary, and to the right.

***A gentle reminder: please silence your mobile phone before the service.***

## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

### PRELUDE

*People, Look East*

W. Wold

*[During the Prelude, please prepare for worship by observing attentive silence.]*

### LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH AND PRAYER

*[Please stand when the chimes sound, and face the Baptistry in the rear of the sanctuary.]*

Symbols in the Bulletin **P** Priest, **D** Deacon, **C** Congregation, **L** Leader, **All** Everyone.

### Advent Hymn

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

H 56, v. 1, 6

**All** *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!*

### Prayer for the Third Candle of Advent: Joy

**P** We light the first candle as a symbol of Christ who brings Hope. *[One blue candle is lit.]*  
We light the second candle as a symbol of Christ who brings Love. *[2nd blue candle is lit.]*  
We light the third candle as a symbol of Christ who brings Joy. *[A pink candle is lit.]*

**L** Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.  
**C** **Our God, we come to you today filled with joy. We ask your blessing upon us  
and our mission. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**All** *O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

### GATHERING HYMN

*Arise! Your Light is Come*

*Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey  
show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.*

*Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;  
proclaim the captives' liberty, good tidings to the poor.*

*Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born,  
bind up the broken-hearted ones and comfort those who mourn.*

*Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*[Please be seated.]*

### MISSION MOMENT

## ACCLAMATION

*[Please stand.]*

**P** Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C** And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

## COLLECT FOR PURITY

**A** Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray... Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## WORD OF GOD

**THE READINGS:** Isaiah 35:1–10 • Canticle 15 • James 5:7–10 • Matthew 11:2–11

*[Please be seated.]*

### The First Reading

**L** *The First Reading is taken from Isaiah, chapter 35*

The desert and the dry land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom like the crocus. They will burst into bloom, and rejoice with joy and singing. They will receive the glory of Lebanon, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon. They will see the Lord's glory, the splendor of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and support the unsteady knees. Say to those who are panicking: "Be strong! Don't fear! Here's your God, coming with vengeance; with divine retribution God will come to save you."

Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf will be cleared. Then the lame will leap like the deer, and the tongue of the speechless will sing. Waters will spring up in the desert, and streams in the wilderness. The burning sand will become a pool, and the thirsty ground, fountains of water. The jackals' habitat, a pasture; grass will become reeds and rushes. A highway will be there. It will be called The Holy Way. The unclean won't travel on it, but it will be for those walking on that way. Even fools won't get lost on it; no lion will be there, and no predator will go up on it. None of these will be there; only the redeemed will walk on it.

The Lord's ransomed ones will return and enter Zion with singing, with everlasting joy upon their heads. Happiness and joy will overwhelm them; grief and groaning will flee away.

**L** The Word of the Lord

**C** Thanks be to God.

## The Psalm

## *My Soul Cries Out*

***My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great, and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait. You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?***

### *Refrain*

***My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.***

***From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone. Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne. The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn; there are tables spread; every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.***

### *Refrain*

***Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast: God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp. This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.***

### *Refrain*

## The Second Reading

℣ *The Second Reading is taken from James, Chapter 5...*

Therefore, brothers and sisters, you must be patient as you wait for the coming of the Lord. Consider the farmer who waits patiently for the coming of rain in the fall and spring, looking forward to the precious fruit of the earth. You also must wait patiently, strengthening your resolve, because the coming of the Lord is near. Don't complain about each other, brothers and sisters, so that you won't be judged. Look! The judge is standing at the door!

Brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord as an example of patient resolve and steadfastness.

℣ The Word of the Lord.

☩ **Thanks be to God.**

## ACCLAMATION

*[Please stand.]*

## WORD OF GOD

℣ ***Word of God, come down on earth, living rain from heav'n descending; touch our hearts and bring to birth faith and hope and love unending. Word almighty, we revere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.***

## The Gospel

▫ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

🔊 **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

▫ Now when John heard in prison about the things the Christ was doing, he sent word by his disciples to Jesus, asking, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?”

Jesus responded, “Go, report to John what you hear and see. Those who were blind are able to see. Those who were crippled are walking. People with skin diseases are cleansed. Those who were deaf now hear. Those who were dead are raised up. The poor have good news proclaimed to them. Happy are those who don’t stumble and fall because of me.”

When John’s disciples had gone, Jesus spoke to the crowds about John: “What did you go out to the wilderness to see? A stalk blowing in the wind? What did you go out to see? A man dressed up in refined clothes? Look, those who wear refined clothes are in royal palaces. What did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. He is the one of whom it is written: Look, I’m sending my messenger before you, who will prepare your way before you.

“I assure you that no one who has ever been born is greater than John the Baptist. Yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

▫ The Gospel of the Lord.

🔊 **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon**

Becky Robbins-Penniman

*[Please be seated.]*

**SERMON HYMN**

*Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*

*[Please stand.]*

***Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning.  
Sing out your joy, for soon he is born, behold! The Child of our longing.***

***Come as a baby weak and poor, to bring all hearts together,  
he opens wide the heavenly door and lives now inside us forever.***

***To us, to all in sorrow and fear, Emmanuel comes a singing;  
his humble song is quiet and near, yet fills the earth with its ringing;  
music to heal the broken soul and hymns of lovingkindness.***

***The thunder of his anthems rolls to shatter all hatred and violence.***

***In darkest night his coming shall be, when all the world is despairing,  
as morning light so quiet and free, so warm and gentle and caring.  
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in wonder,  
the weak be raised above the strong, and weapons be broken asunder.***

***Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night. Though dark the winter and cheerless,  
the rising sun shall crown you with light; be strong and loving and fearless.***

***Love be our song and love our prayer and love our endless story;  
may God fill every day we share and bring us at last into glory.***

## NICENE CREED

[Please stand.]

**☩ We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

[Please sit, stand, or kneel, as you prefer.]

**☩** Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

**℣** Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. *Silence...* We pray in joy.

**☩ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**℣** Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. *Silence...* We pray in joy.

**☩ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**℣** Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. We give you thanks for the flowers given by Gail Griffin to your glory and in loving memory of Marcia Burdick. *Silence...* We pray in joy.

**☩ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**℣** Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We thank you for all the blessings of this life. *Silence...* We pray in joy.

**☩ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

ℒ Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, especially [*read names from notebook...*] and those we now name aloud or in our hearts. [*Leave time...*] Bring them the joy of your salvation. *Silence...* We pray in joy.

☩ **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

ℒ We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially [*read names from notebook...*]. We pray also for those we now name aloud or in our hearts [*leave time...*]; that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *Silence...* We pray in joy.

☩ **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

ℒ These things and all for which we pray, we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

☩ **Amen.**

### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

[*Please stand or kneel.*]

ℒ Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. [*Silence is kept.*]  
Most merciful God . . .

☩ **we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

ℒ Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

☩ **Amen.**

### PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS

[*Those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries or special occasions may receive an individual blessing.*]

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

#### THE GREETING OF PEACE

[*Please stand.*]

ℒ The peace of the Lord be always with you.

☩ **And also with you.** [*All may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*]

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### OFFERTORY SENTENCE

- ☐ Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

*[If this is your first time worshiping with us, please let your offering be only the completed blue guest card, and let this service be our gift to you.]*

### OFFERTORY

*God of Still Waiting*

A. Fedak

*[Please be seated.]*

### PRESENTATION

*[Please stand when the offering plates are given to the Deacon.]*

- ☐ We gladly present the fruits of our lives to the God who creates us, redeems us and sustains us. May we have the grace to use them to heal God's world.

### PRESENTATION HYMN

*God of the Fertile Fields*

**AI** God of the fertile fields, shaper of earth that yields our daily bread:  
forth from your bounteous hand come gifts your love has planned,  
that all in every land be clothed and fed.

**We would be stewards true, holding in trust from you all that you give;  
help us in love to share, teach us like you to care  
for people everywhere, that all may live.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer A

☐ The Lord be with you.

☑ **And also with you.**

☐ Lift up your hearts.

☑ **We lift them to the Lord.**

☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☑ **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

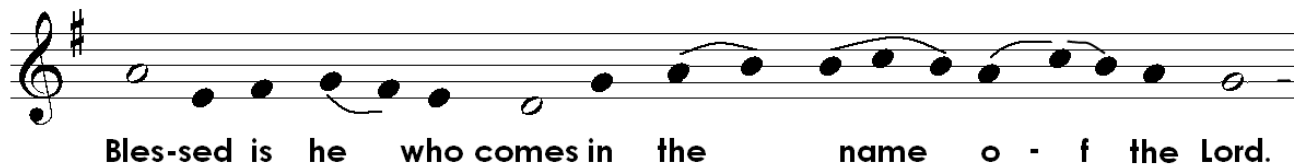
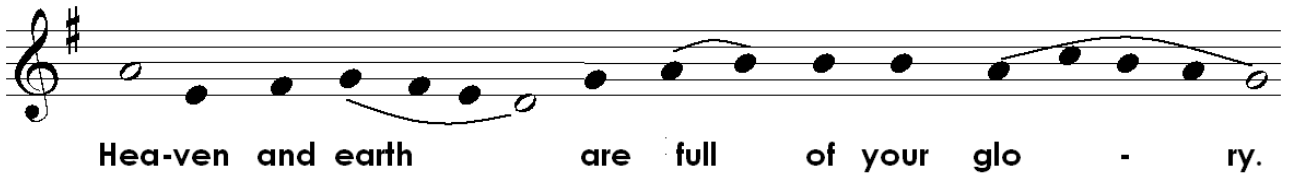
☐ It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



# SANCTUS

## Emmanuel

All



*[Please stand or kneel, as you choose.]*

**P** Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

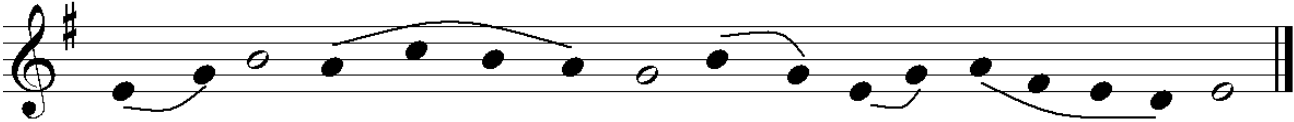
**C** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

**P** All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

**All**



A - men, a - men, a - men, a - men.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**P** And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## FRACTION

**P** The bread we break makes us one in Christ.

**C** Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

**P** The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*[You may be seated. All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please follow the directions of the usher, who will let you know when it's your turn to go to the altar rail. You may stand or kneel. To receive, hold your hands in front of you, one palm over the other. The priest will place a wafer there. You may either consume it immediately, and then sip from the cup of wine when it comes to you, or, you may wait and dip the wafer into the wine. When you are finished, please return to your seat by the side aisle.]*

**Our Prayer Team will be in the south narthex (at the back of the church) during Holy Communion to pray with you for healing, guidance, thanksgiving, for a loved one, or anything else on your heart.**

## COMMUNION MUSIC

*[Please remain seated.]*

## COMMUNION CHANT

### *Wait for the Lord*

*[Please repeat this chant until the musician stops playing the tune.]*

**All**



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.



Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*[Please stand or kneel, as you choose.]*

**P** Let us pray...

**All** Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

## THE BLESSING

*[Please stand.]*

**P** The Lord calls us to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Day of the Lord by filling our lives with the promises of hope, the labors of love, the depths of joy, and the strengths of peace; go from here with the blessing of the Triune God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, this day and forever.

**G** Amen.

***O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!***

***He speaks; and, listening to his voice, new life the dead receive,  
the mournful broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.***

***Hear him, ye deaf; ye voiceless ones, your loosened tongues employ;  
ye blind, behold your Savior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!***

**THE DISMISSAL**

☐ Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

*Prepare the Way, O Zion*

P. Manz

**SERVING US TODAY**

|                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Celebrant             | Becky Robbins-Penniman           |
| Deacon                | Cindy Roehl                      |
| Priest Associate      | Ann Chaplin                      |
| Organist              | Robert Moncrief                  |
| Acolyte               | Dan Depies                       |
| Chalicians            | Heather Elder<br>Andrea Zahn     |
| Lectors               | Isabelle Schueler<br>Linda Thies |
| Prayers of the People | Judith Auger                     |
| Prayer Team           | Cheryl Sharpe<br>Rhiannon Sharpe |
| Greeters              | Donna Pylman<br>Nancy Fisher     |
| Ushers                | Indra Eldridge<br>Terry Eldridge |
| Welcome Center        | Miriam & Joe Nixon               |
| Coffee Hour Hosts     | Bodacious Breakfast              |
| Buildings & Grounds   | Bob Roehl                        |