

Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church

Online Worship Service

December 20, 2020 – 4th Sunday of Advent

GATHERING ...

The Ringing of the Bell Words of Welcome

PREPARING ...

Call to Worship

The Bates Family

Our Advent candles this year represent four gifts that God gives us – Peace, Justice, Joy, and Salvation. These gifts are God’s vision for how our world *should* be. We are invited this year to receive peace, justice, joy, and salvation as the gifts they are and spend time each week reflecting on how to use each gift to help build a better world.

Today we continue the season of Advent by lighting the fourth candle in our Advent wreath: THE GIFT OF SALVATION.

The prophet Isaiah writes: *The young woman shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.*

Immanuel means “God with us.” Salvation comes when “God is with us.”

As we light our fourth candle let us consider how Immanuel, God with us, may be our SALVATION

Let us pray together:

Immanuel, “God with us,” your gift of salvation reminds us that all which is good in our lives – all that is peace, all that is justice, and all that is joy – comes from you. Help us to seek this SALVATION not just for ourselves but for all humankind. Amen.

Call to Confession and Prayer

Now is the time to wake from sleep.

Salvation is near. Let us confess our sins:

Come, Christ Jesus, be our guest, and may our lives by you be blest. Come God-with-us, and free us from the false claims of the empires of this world. We are lonely for you and your peace. Come, Emmanuel, and dwell with us, make us your people indeed, the people through whom you bring love and justice to the world. Come, Christ, and reign; claim your rightful place in our hearts and in the midst of our community. Plant the seeds of hope within us that we, too, may establish the Kingdom of God among us. Hear our silent prayers of return ...

(A Time of Silence for Personal Confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low.

Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

Response, No. 1

Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus (stanza 1)

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;

From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.

Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;

Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

STUTTGART

HEARING ...

Scripture Isaiah 7:10-16

Sermon OUR GIFT OF SALVATION: CHOOSING WHOLENESS

Ashia Stoess

Anthem When Love Was Born
James Bates, Vocal

B.HERMS, M.SCHULTZ, S.LEWIS

RESPONDING ...

Affirmation of Faith (*unison*)

FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH

In a broken and fearful world, God's Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God and empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and faithful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and earth, saying: "Come Lord Jesus!"

Time of Giving Thanks

Announcements
Prayers of the People
The Lord's Prayer

SENDING ...

Charge and Benediction

Benediction Response

Our flowers this morning are dedicated to the Glory of God

This Week's Birthdays: Virginia Baumann (12/20) LaMont Coverstone (12/20)
 Joy Girgis (12/20) Ann Weingardt (12/20) Shawn Phelps (12/23)

To dedicate flowers for an upcoming Sunday, contact the Church Office at 241-4326