



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH THE ORDER FOR WORSHIP

December 9, 2007
9:25 a.m.

2nd Sunday of Advent
Liturgical Color: Blue

“Repent” is the challenge of John the Baptist. In our multiple-choice world with a buffet of ideas, religions, and ideologies, John offers a reminder that the Advent of Jesus will forever stand as a dividing-line in history. His message reminds us that new day has dawned and in its light neutrality is not possible. Jesus has come and we must respond. This morning hear John’s message and consider how you will respond to God’s Good News.

The asterisk () designates when the congregation will please stand.*

Worshipers who find standing difficult are invited to remain seated.

Worshipers are encouraged to turn off their cell phones while they are in the sanctuary.

Bold print is read or sung by the congregation.

WE GATHER TOGETHER FOR WORSHIP

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

You are invited to sign and pass the Ritual of Friendship pads.

When it reaches the end of the pew, please pass it back so that all may note those worshipping today.

Cards are available in the pew for those desiring to request prayer or praise

for specific needs, concerns and joys. Please place the card in the offering plate during the offering.

THE PRELUDE

“Emmanuel”

setting by Joel Raney

WE PREPARE OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ!

All: **We have come to experience God’s grace in our worship and in our lives!**

*THE CHIMES AND SERVICE OF LIGHT

The congregation stands with the first note of the chimes.

The lighted candles on the altar symbolize the presence of God’s Holy Spirit.

The Holy Bible is facing the congregation as a reminder that God’s Word is open and available to all.

WE OPEN OUR LIVES TO GOD

*THE HYMN OF PROCESSIONAL AND WORSHIP

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” v. 1,2,3

Musical Interlude

Hymn 234

Grace United Methodist Church

Ministers

The Congregation of Grace United Methodist Church

Pastors

Stephen A. Beutler Chris Roberts Larry Newberg

Our Missionaries

Rev. Jeff Newton, Kokomo Urban Outreach Ministries

Dr. Dennis Marke, Medical Missionary, Kissy, Sierra Leone

Rev. Ken Vance, Missionary, Ndola, Town Center, Kafakumba Pastor’s School, Africa

Specialized Ministries

Randy Manning, Director of Music

Jacque Hunt, Chamber Ensemble Director

Debra Long, Volunteer Parish Nurse

Carisa Durham, Childcare Provider

Chuck Hefley, Church Administrator

Barbara Hobbs, Pianist/Organist

Cindy Lovegrove, Office Manager

Phill Montgomery, Counselor

Adriene Riggie, Childcare Provider

TJ Knowland, Youth Director

Our Greeters today are Larry & Sue Murrell and Pat Ampe.

Lighting the Advent Candles today are Rob, Karin, Christopher and Anna Pinto.

The Acolyte is David Maupin.

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by the Orr Family in honor of Ryan’s 20th birthday and Joe & Toni’s Anniversary.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH AND CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: This candle reminds us that God's people hoped for a Savior.

Light one purple candle in the Advent wreath.

All: **Today we trust in God's promise that Jesus is coming.**

Leader: Today is the second Sunday of Advent. Before Jesus birth, Zacharia spoke of a Savior who would guide our feet in the ways of peace. The prophet Micah said in chapter 4 verse 3 and 4 "He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. Every man will sit under his own vine and under his own fig tree, and no one will make them afraid, for the LORD Almighty has spoken." Today we light the candle representing the peace that Jesus brings.

Light a second purple candle in the Advent wreath.

All: **Loving God, Jesus, the Prince of Peace, came to bring peace and good will. Peace is a gift from You found within us. Your Son showed people how to get along even though they were different and tells us to do those things that build up each other. Enable us to be Your bridges of peace in a broken and violent world. Glory to God! Peace on Earth!**

Moments of Silent Prayer

Those desiring to come to the altar for a time of intercessory prayer are welcome to come and kneel or stand.

All are invited to spend these moments in silent prayer seated at your pew.

The Pastoral Prayer

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 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, forever. Amen.

WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC

"We Are So Blessed"

Gospelaires accompanied by Jack Elleman
by Gaither and Nelson

THE EPISTLE LESSON

2 Peter 3:8-15a
(Pew Bible page No 861)

THE ANTHEM

"He Will Come and Save You"

Altar Choir
Fitts and Salder

During the playing of the hymn, "Jesus Loves Me" children, preschool through Grade 2, are invited to attend Children's Church in the Multi-Purpose Room, lower level. An adult will meet the children at the sanctuary exit to escort our little ones.

*THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 3:1-12
(Pew Bible page No 682)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PROCLAMATION

Pastor Chris Roberts

GOOD NEWS - GOD CHANGES PEOPLE

WE DEDICATE OURSELVES TO GOD

OFFERING GOD OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

If you are visiting this morning, you are our guest. If Grace U.M. Church is your home, remember that the biblical expectation is that you will give your tithe to your church. May we all remember that giving to God in response to His great love is the most celebrative moment of corporate worship. Today's loose coin offering is dedicated to CAM.

The Giving of our Tithes and Offering

The Offertory

"Now Comes the Gentiles' Savior"

*The Advent Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

To the tune of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*HYMNS OF INVITATION TO A LIFE WITH CHRIST

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Hymn 195

*THE CHIMES AND SERVICE OF LIGHT

The Living Flame on the altar reminds us that we must carry the message of God's grace and love out from this sanctuary into the world.

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE CHORAL RESPONSE

"What Can I Give Him"

Altar Choir
Don Cason

THE POSTLUDE

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain" Hymn 251

Mark Hayes