

First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley Worship Bulletin December 12, 2021

Welcome

Rev. Michelle Vecchio-Lyzenga

Choral Call to Worship: While We Are Waiting Come

Come, savior, quickly come
Come, savior, quickly come
Jesus our Lord Emmanuel
While we are waiting, come

Advent Candle Lighting

Sandy Buscheck, Monica Munger, Dot Walker, Janie Elson, Katy Spangler, Barbara Brenner Buder, Anita Ogden, Donna Van Noord

Song: While We Are Waiting Come

Come, savior, quickly come
Come, savior, quickly come
Jesus our Lord Emmanuel
While we are waiting, come

While We Are Waiting, Come
Claire Coniger and Don Cason
CCLI Song # 27525 © Public Domain

Song: O Come O Come Emmanuel

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 day-spring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;

And drive away the shades of night
And pierce the clouds and bring us light

O come, desire of nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease;
fill all the world with heaven's peace

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
John Mason Neale, Thomas Helmore
CCLI Song # 31982 © Public Domain

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Tom Elson

Forgive us God,
when we live our lives within the lines,
when we say
 this is the shape of our work
 this is the boundary of our habitation
 these are the limits to our love
 these are the lines of our vision
 these, and none other.

Draw us beyond our patterns into yours:
 shifting, moving
 curving, spiraling,
 many-colored, ever-changing,
 stretching, pushing,
 challenging, renaming,
 unsettling, disturbing,
 casting forth,
 and welcoming home.

Assurance of Pardon

One: Friends, believe the good news.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and are being made whole. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Scripture: Luke 3:1-18

One:

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

All:

**'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"**

One:

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him,

All:

'What then should we do?'

One:

In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him,

All:

'Teacher, what should we do?'

One:

He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him,

All:

'And we, what should we do?'

One:

He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: A Home for All

Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell

The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Mark Stryker

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.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Call to Give

Sherry Dabney

Song: Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Hail to the Lord's Anointed
great David's greater Son
Hail in the time appointed
his reign on earth begun
He comes to break oppression
to set the captive free
to take away transgression
and rule in equity

He comes with succor speedy
to those who suffer wrong
to help the poor and needy
and bid the weak be strong
to give them songs for sighing
their darkness turn to light
whose souls, condemned and dying
are precious in his sight

He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth
love, joy, and hope, like flowers
spring in his path to birth
Before him on the mountains
shall peace, the herald, go
and righteousness, in fountains
from hill to valley flow

To him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend
his kingdom still increasing
a kingdom without end
The tide of time shall never
his covenant remove
his name shall stand forever

that name to us is love

Hail to the Lord's Anointed
James Montgomery
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Benediction

Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell

Postlude: Toccata on "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"