

## First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley Bulletin—12/03/2023

❖ **Prelude: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** (arr. Lani Smith)

❖ **Choral Call to Worship: A Candle is Burning**

A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright  
a candle of hope in December's dark night  
While angels sing blessings from heaven's dark sky  
our hearts we prepare now, for Jesus is nigh

"A Candle is Burning" Music by James R. Murray © Public Domain. Words by Sandra Dean © 1986  
Sandra Dean.

❖ **Advent Candle Lighting**—*Evon Hasaballa, Hanna Megally, Sophia Hanna*

❖ **Musical Response: A Candle is Burning**

A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright  
a candle of hope in December's dark night  
While angels sing blessings from heaven's dark sky  
our hearts we prepare now, for Jesus is nigh

❖ **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

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

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

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

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" by John Mason Neale, Thomas Helmore. © Public Domain. CCLI License # 133385

## ❖ **Prayer of Confession**—*Rev. Drew Paton*

Advent God, we confess we are not the people you hope us to be.  
We call out to you, “Be the God we dream!”  
You respond by being the God we need.  
We question and expect of you.  
You reframe our questions and unravel our expectations.  
We seek clear-cut and easy answers. You give us the mystery of hope.  
We desire now. You bid us wait.  
We look for obvious salvation. You send a child.  
Forgive us, Emmanuel.  
When we lose our way, show us yours.  
Lead us down the streets of your kingdom.  
Help us to let go of our expectations  
so that we might be ready to welcome the One who is on the way.

## ❖ **Assurance of Pardon**

One: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

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

## ❖ **Passing the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## ❖ **Regathering Music: I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me**

I’m so glad Jesus lifted me  
I’m so glad Jesus lifted me  
I’m so glad Jesus lifted me  
Singing glory, hallelujah  
Jesus lifted me.

When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me  
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me  
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me  
Singing glory, hallelujah  
Jesus lifted me.

Satan had me bound Jesus lifted me  
Satan had me bound Jesus lifted me  
Satan had me bound Jesus lifted me  
Singing glory, hallelujah  
Jesus lifted me.

I’m so glad Jesus lifted me  
I’m so glad Jesus lifted me  
I’m so glad Jesus lifted me  
Singing glory, hallelujah  
Jesus lifted me.

“I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me” African American Traditional. © Public Domain.

❖ **Litany of Parting & Welcome**—*Rev. Michelle Vecchio-Lyzenga*

Congregation: May God be with you there.

Children: May God be with you here.

❖ **Scripture: Luke 1:18**

Zechariah said to the angel, “How can I know that this will happen? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.”

One: The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

❖ **Sermon: "How Will I Know That This Is So?"**—*Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell*

❖ **Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

❖ **Invitation to the Table**—*Rev. Michelle Vecchio-Lyzenga*

❖ **Great Prayer & 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.

❖ **Words of Institution & Instructions**

❖ **Musical Reflection**

❖ **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

❖ **Call to Give**—*Jamie McClave*

❖ **Song: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus**

Come thou long expected Jesus,	Born thy people to deliver,
born to set thy people free	born a child and yet a king,
From our fears and sins release us,	born to reign in us forever
let us find our rest in thee	Now thy gracious kingdom bring
Israel's strength and consolation	By thine own eternal spirit
Hope of all the earth thou art	Rule in all our hearts alone
Dear desire of every nation,	By thine all sufficient merit
joy of every longing heart	Raise us to thy glorious throne

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" by Charles Wesley, Rowland Hugh Prichard. © Public Domain.

❖ **Benediction**—*Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell*

❖ **Postlude: Postlude on "HYFRYDOL"** (arr. Eurydice Osterman)