

LISBON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
December 18, 2022 The Fourth Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE and TIME OF QUIET REFLECTION

WORDS OF GREETING

A Time of Praise

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let us worship and magnify the Lord together.

PEOPLE: Christ comes into our lives.

Leader: Rejoice and praise ! God's promises reign !

PEOPLE: Christ comes to show us the ways of love and justice.

Leader: Sing songs of old ! Proclaim ancient truths !

PEOPLE: We worship and praise our Lord, Emmanuel - God with us.

*OPENING HYMN *Good Christians Friends, Rejoice* # 224

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE with *Advent Song* (vs 4)

UNISON PRAYER God of expectation, fill us with hope this day. Create in us an expectation of goodness and grace. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, that we may perceive your presence in the world and rejoice at the blessings and hope all around us. Fill our days in this week that leads to Christmas with peace and joy. All this we pray in the name of the One whose coming we await. Amen

RESPONSIVE PSALM Luke 1.47-55 # 199

Act of Confession and Pardon

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION We wait, gracious God, but seldom do so patiently, much less with joyous anticipation. Forgive us when we expect the worst; forgive us when we live with anger and bitterness, rather than kindness and love. Restore us with the gift of your grace, and fill us with the power of the Holy Spirit that we may grow into a people of peace and love. With hope and in Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Rise in joy and hope for God will lift you up and fill you with good things.

PEOPLE: We rise in joy and hope, for God's mercy is true, and in Christ we are forgiven and redeemed. Glory to God in the highest.

Hearing God's Word

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 7.10-16 (pg.636)

CHORAL ANTHEM

EPISTLE READING Romans 1.1-7 (pg.152)

GOSPEL READING Matthew 1.18-25 (pg. 1)

SERMON *A Season of Hope: Emmanuel*

*HYMN *There's A Song in the Air* # 249

Responding To God's Word

A TIME OF PRAYER

Joys and Concerns and Time of Silent Prayer
An Advent Prayer (insert)
The Lord's Prayer # 895
Choral Prayer Response

RECEIVING OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

Offertory and *Doxology # 95
*Prayer of Dedication

*CLOSING HYMN *What Child Is This* # 219

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*WORDS OF BENEDICTION

*Leader: Our journey to Bethlehem is nearly complete; soon
God's glory will be fully revealed.*

**PEOPLE: We watch, we wait, and we anticipate Christ's
coming into our lives.**

*Leader: May the light of God's glory shine brightly in your lives
and bring you great joy as the Christmas celebration
draws near.*

**PEOPLE: We go forth into the world of God's creation with
joyful hearts, knowing that our Messiah comes.
Thanks be to God**

*SUNG BENEDICTION *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (vs. 4) # 211

*POSTLUDE Today's Worship Leaders

Lay Reader: Bud Cherry
Video Production Manager: Verne Smith

Debbie Greim, Organist and Choir Director
Rev. Elizabeth J. Bachelder Smith, Pastor



The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Lisbon United Methodist Church
welcomes, nurtures, and serves
all people
with the love of Christ.