Advent



DESIGNED FOR DIGNITY - Design for Culture

During the last year or so, I've come to know and understand more and more the profound this-worldliness of Christianity. The Christian is not a homo religious, but simply a man, as Jesus was a man.... I don't mean the shallow and banal this-worldliness of the enlightened, the busy, the comfortable, or the lascivious, but the profound this-worldliness, characterized by discipline and the constant knowledge of death and resurrection.... I thought I could acquire faith by trying to live a holy life, or something like it.... I discovered later, and I'm still discovering right up to this moment, that it is only by living completely in this world that one learns to have faith. Deitrich Bonhoeffer writing from Tegel prison on July 21, 1944 on how he had come to this understanding of Christianity in his own faith journey.

ORDER OF WORSHIP | DECEMBER 3, 2023

Hearing support is available. Please, ask an usher, audio technician, or Deacon Norm Marks.

Children are welcome to remain in worship with us. In Room 103 Infants/Toddler Nursery will be open at 10:30am. Room 100 is now available throughout the whole service for children 2–3 years old. The lesson won't start until the sermon begins. Jr. Church (4yrs to 2rd grade) does not meet on Communion Sundays.

Gluten-free bread (in small, clear, zippered bags) is available for communion.

Welcome

PASTOR BARBER

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Prelude — Comfort, Comfort Ye My People (THIRSTING; L. Bourgeois, 1551)

See, amid the Winter's Snow (SEE AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW;

John Goss, 1870)

BRASS ENSEMBLE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

SUE HUGHEY

* GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship — Psalm 107 (Pew Bible, p. 643)

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,

People: for his steadfast love endures forever!

Pastor: Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,

All: whom he has redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands.

PASTOR BARBER

^{*} Hymn — Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (music opposite page)

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus Charles Wesley

HYFRYDOL Rowland H. Prichard (1830) Arranged by DAN FORREST (ASCAP)



This page may be reproduced as needed for congregational use.

@ Copyright 2023 by Beckenhorst Press, Inc. & All rights reserved.

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION (followed by 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PASTOR EVANS

* CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Institutes of the Christian Religion (2.2.13–16, paraphrased) Human intelligence extends not only to heavenly things but also earthly things. One example is with regard to matters of civil politics. A second example is with regard to the arts. Particular gifts in this respect conferred on individuals attest to the grace of God. The rise of this knowledge of earthly things show us how human nature, notwithstanding of its fall, is still adorned by God with excellent endowments. And, that we may see that these endowments bestowed on individuals are intended for the common benefit of mankind. They are sometimes conferred even on the wicked.

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

Old and New Testament readings — Jeremiah 29:4–7 (Pew Bible, p. 833) John 17:15–21 (Pew Bible, p. 1149)

Jer. 29:4 "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵ Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce. ⁶ Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. ⁷ But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare."

Jeremiah 29:4–7 (ESV)

ELDER DENNIS DIETRICH John 17:15 I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

²⁰ "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

John 17:15–21 (ESV)

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PASTOR EVANS

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN (followed by Private Confession of Sin)

Gracious Father, you extend your love and mercy to me not because anything my hands have done but purely out of your indescribable grace. Forgive me for the pride of thinking I have done anything or am good enough to deserve your love. Forgive me for the contempt I have for others in thinking that I am superior to my fellow man. Help me to see that being created and redeemed by you makes me equal to all others whom you have extended your grace. There is nothing inherent in me or in my actions that make me greater. All that I have in you is a most undeserved gift from you. Give me humility to see that I am one of many undeserving recipients of your grace.

Assurance of Pardon

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation.

Isaiah 12:2 (Pew Bible, p. 733)

❖ stand if able 5

WE LIVE OUT OUR MISSION and PASTORAL PRAYER

WE GIVE TO THE ONE WHO HAS GIVEN US EVERYTHING



■點■ You can also give online on our website, through the app Vanco Mobile, or mail a check to the office (if it is for the Deacons Fund, please note on the memo).

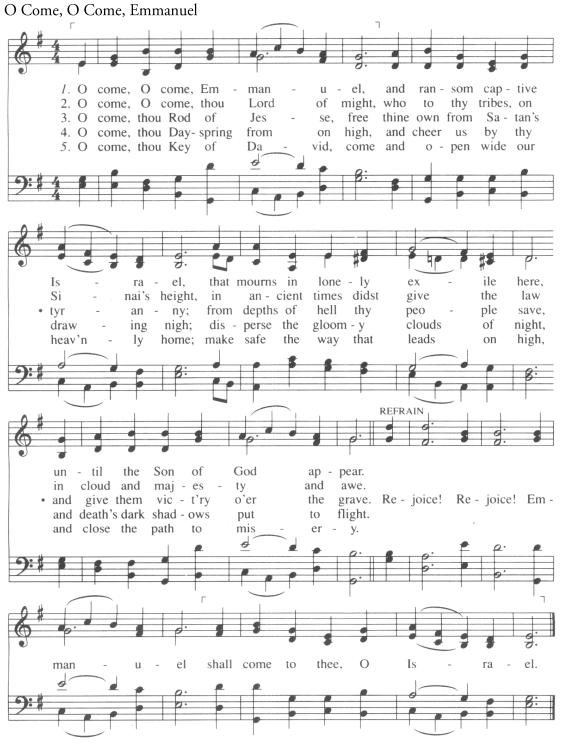
Offertory Response — Away in a Manger (James R. Murray; arr. Dan Marvin; edit. Tim Zimmerman)

IONATHAN WITTMAN, Trumpet

*Hymn (Trinity #194) — O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (music next page)

Children are welcome to remain in worship with us. Children 2 and 3 years old may go to Beginner Bible in room 100. Parents please pick up children after the service. There is no Junior Church (4yrs to 2nd grade) on Communion Sundays.

* stand if able 6



Latin antiphons, 12th cent. Latin hymn, 1710 Tr. by John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. 1961 VENI EMMANUEL L.M.ref. Plainsong, 13th cent. Arr. by Thomas Helmore, 1856

GOD EXHORTS THROUGH THE WORD AND WE SING

Design for Culture — Genesis 4:6–26 (Pew Bible, p. 4)

⁶The Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? ⁷If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it."

⁸ Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. ⁹ Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" ¹⁰ And the LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground. ¹¹ And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹² When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth."

PASTOR BARBER

❖ stand if able

¹³ Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. ¹⁴ Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." ¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him, "Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the LORD put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him. ¹⁶ Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

¹⁷ Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. When he built a city, he called the name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch. ¹⁸ To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad fathered Mehujael, and Mehujael fathered Methushael, and Methushael fathered Lamech. ¹⁹ And Lamech took two wives. The name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah. ²⁰ Adah bore Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. ²¹ His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe. ²² Zillah also bore Tubal-cain; he was the forger of all instruments of bronze and iron. The sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah.

²³ Lamech said to his wives:

"Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; you wives of Lamech, listen to what I say: I have killed a man for wounding me,

a young man for striking me.

If Cain's revenge is sevenfold, then Lamech's is seventy-sevenfold."

²⁵ And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and called his name Seth, for she said, "God has appointed for me another offspring instead of Abel, for Cain killed him." ²⁶ To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time people began to call upon the name of the LORD. Genesis 4:6–26 (ESV)

*Hymn (Trinity #193) — Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (music next page)

WE COMMUNE WITH GOD IN THE LORD'S SUPPER AND WE SING

We offer both wine and grape juice during the Lord's Supper. Wine will be placed on the outer ring of the tray, and grape juice will be placed on the inner ring of the tray. Gluten-free bread (in small, clear, zippered bags) is available for communion.

Song — Jesus, Messiah (music on pages 12–13)

The Deacons Offering

When we celebrate communion on the first Sunday of the month we also have a this special collection for the Deacons Fund. These funds are reserved exclusively for needs of mercy to all people, but especially to those in the family of believers. Our deacons disperse these funds as needed as a tangible expression of our communion in Christ and love for one another.

* GOD SENDS US OUT WITH HIS BLESSING

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM (CHANCEL, GRACE AND PEACE Choirs, and Faith Presbyterian Church Choir) — 6рм, at Faith Presbyterian Church

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

The LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him. Hab. 2:20









OUR MISSION We exist to change lives through sharing Christ. We carry out this mission in three ways:

GATHER — we gather Christians together to worship God through Jesus Christ

MORNING WORSHIP—10:45AM

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—December 4, 7pm. Dessert served at 6:30.

CHANCEL CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT—December 10, 6pm

FAMILY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM—December 17, 5:15 Ornament Making/6pm Program

DISCIPLE — we make disciples and grow in our relationship with God and each other

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES—9:30AM

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY—Thursdays from 8:00–9:00AM in Room B202 and online. "Fear of the Lord" by Michael Reeves.

YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY—December 14, 6:30-8:30pm.

SEND — we are all Christ's ambassadors that are sent into the world locally and globally

MISSIONARIES—Scott & Jessica Weber- Pioneers: East Asia (see our Missionary Highlight in this week's online EPiC Newsletter)

Attendance and Financial Information for November 26, 2023

SS: 126 - AM: 293

General Fund

Weekly Gifts Received	\$ 17,087.54
Weekly Budgeted Requirements	\$ 20,409.21
Year-to-Date Gifts Received	\$939,511.63
Year-to-Date Requirements	\$979,642.08
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$904,649.54



OUR MISSION IS TO CHANGE LIVES THROUGH SHARING CHRIST BY GATHERING, DISCIPLING AND SENDING

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Chad Barber, Senior Pastor (chad@epcnewark.org) • Rev. Don Post, Assistant Pastor (don@epcnewark.org) Rev. Rick Gray, Pastor of International Ministry (rick@epcnewark.org)

Dr. Higo Rodrigues, Music Director (higo@epcnewark.org)

**Rev. Caleb Evans, Pastor of Youth and Families (caleb@epcnewark.org)

Deborah Freer, Children's Ministry Director (deb@epcnewark.org)

Micah Freer, Pastoral Intern (micah@epcnewark.org) • Dot Griffin, Administrative Staff (dot@epcnewark.org) Rev. LeRov Greer, Custodian

THE SESSION

Moderator - Rev. Chad Barber • Clerk - Bill Zinkand²³ • Alan Beattie²⁵ • Bernie Cohen²⁴ Dwight Derby²⁵ • Dennis Dietrich²³ • Chuck Heidel²⁵ • David Rose²³ • Paul Veenema²³ • Bill Vinson²⁵

Brian Warshaw²⁵ • Guy Webster²⁴

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Norman Marks^{'24} • Dean Nairn^{'24} • David Visser^{'23}

Missionaries and Benevolent Causes We Support Mission to the World

Africa - Jim and Karen • World Relief/AIDS - Karl and Debbie Dortzbach

Belgium/18.26 Network - Jud and Jan Lamos
• Chile - Verne and Alina Marshall • Cuba - Richard and Robyn Crane England - Rob and Jenny Ilderton • France - James and Jacki Gildard
French Speaking Haiti/Africa - Thomas and Lucy Wright • Global Training and Development - Jeff and Mischa Marlowe

Japan - Andrew and Megan Nairn • New Zealand - Steve and Rita Williams

Ukraine - David and Jill Martin; Dal and Beth Stanton • Serving in Sensitive Areas - Phil and Barb

Agencies of the PCA

Committee on Administration • Committee on Discipleship Ministries • Covenant College • Covenant Seminary Mission to the World • Mission to North America • Reformed University Fellowship • Ridge Haven

Other Christian Organizations

A Door of Hope • Greater Europe Mission - Mark and Marti Mylin (France)

Harvest USA - Ellen Dykas • Heritage Presbytery Church Planting - Will Stern (Hope Presbyterian Church) InterVarsity Christian Fellowship - Greg and Sandy Baker (UD) • Love, INC. (In the Name of Christ)

> Navigators - TJ and KyongA Hayes • Pioneers - Scott and Jessica Weber Reformed University Fellowship - Daryl Wattley (DSU)

Reformed University Fellowship International - Graham and Emily Guo (UD)

Serge (formerly World Harvest) - Josh and Kristi, Jason and Ai Keuh (Japan)

Third Millennium - Gary and Phyllis Waldecker

Wycliffe - John and Judy Williams (Mexico) • Young Life

www.epcnewark.org

308 Possum Park Road, Newark, DE 19711 Office: (302) 737-2300

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.