# St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
### December 13, 2020
### Third Sunday of Advent

**Welcome**

**Opening Voluntary** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Noël Goemanne

**Call to Worship**
Once upon a time, there was a little girl who had a terrible day.
She left her lunch at home.
She skinned her knee on the playground, and no one wanted to sit with her on the bus.
As she sank into her mother's arms at the end of the day, her mother said,
"Honey, what was the best part of today?"
The little girl cried and said, "Nothing! The entire day was terrible."
So the mother got down on one knee, wiped away her tears and said,
"There is always some good. Sometimes we just really have to look for it."
The little girl looked up at her mom and said, "What is good about today?"
And the mother said, "For starters, you're here in my arms."
Friends, anytime we gather together to worship God, whether online or in person, we are here in God's arms.
**May we recognize that gift, and in doing so, may we sow joy.**
Let us worship Holy God.

**Candle Lighting Liturgy**

**Hymn Introduction** Paul Manz

**Hymn** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL

1) O come, O come, Emmanuel,
O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

2) O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
who orderest all things mightily:
to us the path of knowledge show;
and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

3) O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

**Confessing our Sin**
O Great Writer,
With a sky full of stars and a world full of flowers, there should be no end to my joy.
And yet, instead of decorating my very being with joy, I let it slip away like loose change.
Instead of singing like Mary, or dancing like David,
I pass by remarkable beauty and love most days, unfazed. Forgive me.
Teach me the ways of children, who laugh and dance and sing
as if joy is the very thing that keeps them alive.
Maybe they have joy figured out. Gratefully we pray...
*Silence is kept for personal prayers of confession*

**Song of Petition** *While We are Waiting, Come* WAITING
While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

**Declaration of Forgiveness**

**CHORAL RESPONSE TO THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**     *Come Christians All, Rejoice*     IN DULCI JUBILO

<div align="center">

Come Christians all, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door and we are blessed forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

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**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**     Pat Baker

**HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING**     Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

**GOSPEL READING**     Luke 1:46-55

**CHILDREN'S LESSON**

**SERMON**     *Those Who Dream...Sow Joy*     Rev. Camille LeBron Powell

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Great Creator,
We are in awe of you.
We will never know how you managed to dream up mountains and valleys,
Freckles, dimples, and curly hair,
A cool morning mist,
The change of seasons,
Or the magic of music.
Your greatness is beyond our reckoning.
And because we are in awe of you,
We believe we must follow Mary's lead and allow our souls to sing.
We believe that the appropriate reaction to your goodness is complete gratitude,
Which looks like love for our neighbor, justice for the poor,
Food for the hungry,
And joy that overflows.
And even though we do not always believe in ourselves,
We believe that our song is pleasing to you.
We believe. Help our unbelief.

**JOYS AND CONCERNS OF GOD'S CHURCH, COMMUNITY AND WORLD**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS**

    **Offertory Response**     *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*     TALLIS' CANON

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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.

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    **Prayer of Dedication**

**HYMN INTRODUCTION**     Roy Brunner

**HYMN**     *O Come, O Come , Emmanuel*     VENI EMMANUEL

5) O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

6) O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.     *Continued*

7) O come, Desire of nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
**And also with you.**

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE**        *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*        STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
There are tables spread; every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
And the world is about to turn.

**BENEDICTION IN MUSIC**        *Veni Emmanuel*        Noel Rawstone

Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, and Affirmation of Faith by Sarah Are |
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Information on this Week's Music

Today is our Sunday of *Veni Emmanuel,* an ancient hymn that is both a plaintive prayer and an urgent cry. Could ever this hymn be more appropriate to our times as right now? The Latin prose that is believed to be pre-9th century. It consisted of seven antiphons sung as a response after a Psalm on the seven days before Christmas. Each antiphon was based a one (or more) or the messianic titles from Hebrew scripture and was a prayer addressed to Christ. Even in translation "Veni" in imperative form is "O come" in English - and the antiphons became to be known as the "Great Os". Also, originally the verses were arranged to form an acrostic yielding two Latin words: *ero cras* meaning "I will be tomorrow" - a direct reference to Hebrews 13:8 - that Christ is "the same yesterday and today and forever" The tune is traditional plainsong thought to have been from the 11th century; however, recent research has confirmed the tune to be from a 13th century French document. Whatever the original source, the tune and the words combined have become a signature expression of the emotions of Advent.

The **Opening Voluntary** is by Noël Goemanne (1926–2010), a Belgian-born musician, who in 1952 emigrated to the United States, where he became well known as an organist, as a choirmaster and as a composer, especially of, but not limited to, sacred music. An interesting note to his life: during World War II the Nazi occupier tried to persuade him to become a composer for the Third Reich, but he refused. He was later arrested for playing music by Felix Mendelssohn, a Jewish composer, in public.

The **first Hymn Introduction** is from a collection of pieces for Advent and Christmas by Paul Manz (1919-2009) who long served the church as recitalist, composer, teacher and leader in worship.

The **second Hymn Introduction** was composed by Roy Brunner (b. 1945), an American composer and organist who served at Park Street Church, Boston.

The **Benediction in Music** is by Noel Rawsthorne (b. 1949), an English organist and educator. He was organist of Liverpool Cathedral for 25 years and Senior Lecturer in Music at St. Katherine's College, Liverpool until his retirement in 1993.