

Worship Guide
December 13, 2020
Third Sunday in Advent



Welcome

Call to worship

L: Sing and rejoice, O daughter Zion!

P: For lo, I will come and dwell in your midst, says the Lord.

L: Many nations shall join themselves to the Lord in that day,

P: and shall be my people; and I will dwell in your midst.

Opening prayer

**In the advent seasons, when the past has fled, unasked, away
and there is nothing left to do but wait,**

God, shelter us.

Be our surrounding darkness;

be the fertile soil out of which hope springs in due time.

In uncertain times, help us to greet the dawn and labor on, love on,

waiting to be born in due time. Amen.

(Ruth Duck, USA, 20th cent.)

Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

UMH 211, v. 3 & 4

**O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times once gave the law in cloud and majesty and awe.**

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

O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree, an ensign of thy people be;

before thee rulers silent fall; all peoples on thy mercy call

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

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Joy.

May the joyful promise of your presence, O God,

make us rejoice in our hope of salvation.

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Scripture readings:

Isaiah 7: 14 - 16

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Matthew 1: 18 - 25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Message: *Show them the ocean*

Concerns and Prayers

O Lord hear our prayer, O Lord hear our prayer

When we call, answer us.

O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord here our prayer

Come and listen to us.

Offering - This is an opportunity to share the goodness that has been given to you. Consider sending an offering to Centenary UMC, PO Box 630, Skowhegan ME 04976 or to an organization in your community that makes a positive difference in people's lives.

You may also offer God something that's on your heart: joy, gratefulness, anxiety, or something else.

The Great Thanksgiving

And now with the confidence of children of God, we pray as Jesus taught, saying, “**Our Father...**”

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

Closing Hymn: Emmanuel, Emmanuel

UMH 204

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel

Benediction

Divided Kingdoms of Israel and Judah 931-723/587 BC

www.bible.ca/maps
Steven Rudd 2017

