

November 27, 2022
9:30 am
First Sunday of Advent

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Zu Bethlehem Geboren”

Helmut Walcha

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN NO. 95

“Prepare the Way of the Lord”

PREPARE THE WAY

Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,
and all people will see the salvation of our God.

Lighting the candles today are the Soup Kitchen Volunteers

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*HYMN NO. 88 v. 1,2,3

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Song 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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Our world carries the scars of the way we live, Jesus; the preferential treatment given to the few who are wealthy and powerful and famous leaving others ignored and neglected; the desperate quest for more leaves all of us feeling less, enjoying less; the self-protective aggression we embrace to feel safe leaves us and others wounded and frightened; the apathetic disregard for the suffering, the grieving, the dying leaves us disconnected from our own humanity, from our ability to feel and to care.

We need our world turned upside down, Jesus; We need a new way of being that is built on a whole new set of values: Humble the self-centered and exalt the humble, we pray. Give us the wisdom to let a Child lead us into a world of justice and love; into the joy of sacrifice and service and simplicity. O come, Emmanuel, and ransom your captive people. Amen

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Reach out and touch the kingdom, for it is right next to you. Breathe in, and feel the Spirit of peace and hope. Trust and believe this good news: Our Savior is nearer than you might ever imagine.

Thanks be to God, in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! We can set aside our differences and embrace everyone, we can seek peace for all in our lives, our neighborhoods, our world. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 88 v. 4

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

**O come, O Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan’s tyranny;
from depts of hell Thy people save, and give them victory o’er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

PROCLAIMING AND RESPONDING

CHILDREN’S SERMON

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Cookie Walk

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 13:11-14

Page 152 NT

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Keep Your Lamps!”

Spiritual arr. Andre Thomas

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 24:36-44

Page 26 NT

SERMON

“Reflecting the Sacred: Sacred Time”

Rev. William Schram

*HYMN NO. 94

“Now The Heavens Start to Whisper”

Jefferson

JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE

INVITATION TO GIVING

GOING FORTH

*HYMN NO. 82

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
2. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king.
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Tell Out My Soul”

Paul Manz

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram
Valerie Shondel, Interim Music Director
Chancel Choir
Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers
Michael Sperrazza, & Matthew Califf AV Team

†If you are new to the church...**Welcome!** We're glad to have you here.
After the service today, we hope you will join us for Coffee Hour in Room 120 located through the door to the left of the choir loft and left to the end of the hall.

✚ For more information about our First Pres, please visit our website:

www.firstprescaldwell.org

Oasis Giving Tree—Accepting donations through Target registry, gift tag fulfillment, or monetary. Details on the church website, or call the office for more information. Deadline November 28th.

Cookie Walk in Fellowship Hall—December 10th 9AM-12PM

SOUP KITCHEN—Please see First Press, visit the website, or call the office for additional information.

December 18th—Christmas Family Service @ 10AM (One service this day)

December 18th @ 6:00 pm—Service of Peace and Hope

December 23rd—Contemporary Christmas Service @ 7PM

December 24th—Christmas Eve Services at 8PM and 10PM

December 25th—Video Broadcast Service at 10AM (No in person worship service)



THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
AT CALDWELL
326 Bloomfield Avenue
Caldwell, New Jersey 07006
973-228-0310
www.firstprescaldwell.org

