



First United Methodist Church

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First United Methodist Church Cuero

December 13, 2020
Third Sunday of Advent



DECK THE HALLS
COMPANY'S COMING WORSHIP SERIES

Order of Worship

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Jackie

PASSING OF THE PEACE

INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Bob Wood

All: We come to worship Christ

Leader: Who proclaims good news to the poor,
binds up the broken-hearted, frees thee prisoner
and comforts those who mourn.

All: We come to worship Christ

Leader: Who bestows a crown of beauty instead of ashes,
the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise
instead of a spirit of despair.

All: We come to worship Christ

Leader: Who rebuilds ancient ruins
and restores broken places.

HYMN OF PRAISE *“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”*

UMH 196

SCRIPTURE READING *John 1:6-8, 19-28*

Bob Wood

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Pastor: We want everything to look nice: the decorations of the season, our homes with their lights and tinsel, wreaths and ribbons. We want to lighten the darkness around us, bring beauty to the ugliness that wears us down. We decorate, because it is tradition. Because it lifts our hearts. Because it makes us feel like children again. We deck our halls because company is coming.

Liturgist: The prophet Isaiah smiled when he said, “God will give a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.” No matter how far we feel from the spirit of the season, God promises to decorate us with love and with joy.

Pastor: We light these candles as a sign of our joy in the beautiful things of this season - not just the things that glitter and flash, but the deeper things, the beauty of the heart and the soul, the beauty of love shared in service and hospitality. We light this candle of joy because company is coming.

All: O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

HYMN

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

UMH 211 vs.1

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

DOXOLOGY

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

SCRIPTUREREADING

Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11

MORNING MESSAGE

Deck the Halls

Jackie Freeman

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O merciful God,

***we confess that we have not acknowledged you
as the source of our successes, our substance, our selves.***

***We have been far more ready to complain when things go
wrong than to praise when all is well.***

***We have fed our bodies a rich diet while neglecting to feed our
souls.***

***Power and wealth have assumed greater importance to us
than sensitivity and service.***

***We have allowed religious words and forms to substitute
for living encounters with the persons you have called us to
love.***

***Forgive us, compassionate Redeemer,
and grant us the opportunity to start over again.***

***Keep us from repeating the mistakes of the past
or from new evils that could mislead or destroy.***

In the name of Christ,

we offer our earnest prayers for pardon and deliverance. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

forever. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Hark! The Herald Angels"

UMH 240

BENEDICTION



Worship Leaders

<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Liturgist</i>	<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Music Leader</i>
Jackie Freeman	Bob Wood	Mildred & Stayton Weldon	Sarah Ritchea