

**ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION
AND WORSHIP OF GOD**

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2008

6 P.M.

Prelude

Procession **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, pg. 227**

* Congregation Stands

***Gospel Reading 1** **John 1:1-14**

***Gospel Reading 2** **John 6:53-58**

***Gospel Reading 3** **Luke 1:76-79**

***Gospel Reading 4** **Luke 2:8-14**

***Response** **Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence, pg. 241**

Confession of Sin

Unison: *Almighty God and Father of light,
a child is born to us an a Son is given to us.
Your eternal Word leaped down from heaven
in the silent watches of the night,
and now your Church is filled with wonder
at the nearness of her God.*

For Christ indeed has come.

Forgive us of our sins and pardon our transgressions.

*Cleanse us so that our hearts might be pure
and increase our love for your commandments that we might
live righteously before you.*

*We pray, that by Your mercy, our lives may be filled with His
glory and His peace,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.*

DECLARATION OF ABSOLUTION

"Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, For He has visited and redeemed His people, and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David, as He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets, Who have been since the world began, that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us, to perform the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember His holy covenant, the oath which He swore to our father Abraham, to grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve Him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before Him all the days of our life."
(Luke 1:68-75)

***Response** **O Come, All Ye Faithful, pg. 243**

HOMILY

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Minister: The Lord be with you!

People: *And also with you!*

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

People: *We lift them up to the Lord!*

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord!

People: *It is good and right so to do!*

Minister: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Holy Lord, Father Almighty, Everlasting God. Because You did give Jesus Christ, Your only Son, to be born at this time for us; who, by the power of the Holy Spirit, was made very man, of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; and that without spot of sin, to make us clean of all sin. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise and magnify your glorious Name, evermore praising you and singing,

SANCTUS

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might.
Heav'n and earth are full, Full of Thy glo-ry.
Ho-san-na in the high-est, Ho-san-na in the high-est.
Blessed is He who come-eth, in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san-na in the high-est, Ho-san-na in the high-est.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Minister: Therefore we proclaim the faith:

Unison: *Christ has died;*

Christ is risen;

Christ will come again.

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Unison: *We do not presume to come to this Your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under Your table. But You are the same Lord, who always shows mercy; grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of Your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink of His blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by His body, and our souls washed through His most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in Him, and He in us. Amen.*

Kyrie Eleison

Pastor: Christ our Passover was sacrificed for us.

People: *Therefore, let us keep the feast!*

Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God.

People: *Thanks be to the Lord!*

(The people come forward to receive the sacrament.)

COMMUNION HYMNS

Tonight, Communion will be prayerfully observed and received without singing, with only piano accompaniment.

PRAISES OF THE PEOPLE

Unison: Let the just rejoice,
for their justifier is born.
Let the sick and infirm rejoice,
For their saviour is born.
Let the captives rejoice,
For their Redeemer is born.
Let slaves rejoice,
for their Master is born.
Let free men rejoice,
For their Liberator is born.
Let All Christians rejoice,
For Jesus Christ is born.

Angels We Have Heard On High, pg. 230

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Saint
Peter*

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH