

place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>34</sup>“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup>like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

**Sermon** Rev. Sharon Carter

### Responding in Faith Affirmation of Faith

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

### The Service of Giving

Prayer of Dedication Offering Music  
**+Song** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*  
v. 3 #9

### Notes

### Celebration of Holy Communion

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right... who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts (2x)**

**The whole world is full of God's glory (3x)**

**Holy is the Lord!**

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

**Breaking of the Bread**

**Communion of the People**

**Prayer After Communion**

**Going into the World**

**+Hymn** *The King of Glory Comes*  
STF 2091

**+Charge and Benediction**

**+Postlude**



*Community of Faith  
Presbyterian Church*



Community of Faith Presbyterian Church  
First Sunday of Advent, December 2, 2018

+Stand as you are able

*Leader reads plain type, Congregation reads bold*

## Preparing Ourselves

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### Advent Candle Lighting

L: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. As the Lord has promised, in the days to come:

The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks

**P: Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.**

Let us pray: **O Lord our God, we give you thanks for the hope and longing you instill in us through the promise of our baptism—a voice crying out in the wilderness, a messenger to prepare the way, the day of redemption drawing near. By the power of your Holy Spirit, poured out upon us in baptism, keep us awake and make us ready for the coming of your glorious realm of righteousness, justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**+Hymn** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*  
v. 1 #9

### Reading from Scripture

**Jeremiah 33:14-16** <sup>14</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

### Call and Confession

Surely God is our salvation. Have faith and do not be afraid.

Let us pray: **God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world. (moment of silent reflection.)**

### Assurance of Forgiveness

L: With joy, let us draw water from the springs of salvation.

**P: Give thanks to the Lord! Call on God's name!**

L: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**P: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Song** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*  
v.2 #9

### Passing of the Peace

L: As we await the return of Christ let us shower each other and the world with his peace: the peace of Christ be with you all!

**P: And also with you!**

### Anthem

## Hearing the Word

### Prayer for Illumination

**Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit prepare the way into our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we might see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

### Reading from Scripture

**I Thessalonians 3:9-13** <sup>9</sup>How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup>And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup>And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

**Hymn** *Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies* #462

### Gospel Reading Luke 21: 25-36

<sup>25</sup>“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” <sup>29</sup>Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken