

December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
**GATHERING FOR WORSHIP**

**PRELUDE: Ave Maria** (Bell Choir)

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**QUIET HYMN: Send Your Word** #195

**SILENT PRAYER**

**\*HYMN: Blessed Be the God of Israel** #209

**CENTERING FOR WORSHIP**

**LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE**

**\*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** #211(vs 4)

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: This is the fourth Sunday of Advent, a time to rejoice in the wondrous things that God is doing.

**P: Our hearts are filled with the hope that is coming into the world.**

L: The time is fast approaching, not for parties or presence, but for the awareness of God's loving gift to us--the gift of the Christ child.

**P: Help slow us down, so we may realize that your gift of love is at the center of our lives and our celebrations.**

L: Thanks be to God who again reminds us of God's eternal love.

**P: Open our hearts, O God, to receive your blessed gift. AMEN.**

**\* PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

We come this morning, tired from rushing around, tired of trying to meet the demands and expectations of the season. Slow us down. Help us center our thoughts. Restore in us a childlike wonder, and a belief that dreams really do come true. We call on your name. Be with us and in us, Emmanuel. Amen.

**ANTHEM: Come, Emmanuel**

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Isaiah 7:10-16

Luke 1:18-25

**\*HYMN: O Come, All Ye Faithful** #234

**THE WORD OF GOD EXPLORED**

Pastor Joel Holcomb

**GRATEFUL RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD**

**OFFERTORY**

**\*DOXOLOGY** #95

**\*DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING  
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PASTOR**

**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 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.

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

**\*HYMN: Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates** #213

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE: Good King Wenceslas** (Bell Choir)

*\*Indicates standing if that is comfortable for you.*

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