**Worship at Bethel 12-6-20**

**2nd Sunday in Advent**

**Music: Piano: Mila Khmeleva Hymnists: Joy Faciane & Patsy Lohmer**

Welcome & Announcements – Pastor Barb

Gathering Music:

**Song – “He Came Down”ELW, # 253**

1. He came down that we may have **love**;

he came down that we may have **love**;

he came down that we may have **love**;

hallelujah forevermore.

1. **Light**
2. **Peace**
3. **Joy**

**“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” ELW, # 249**

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| 1. On Jordan’s bank, the Baptist’s cry Announces that the Lord is nigh; Awake, and hearken, for he brings Glad tidings of the King of kings!  2. Then cleansed be every life from sin; Make straight the way for God within; and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there. |
| **Advent video** |

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: AMEN**

***Lighting of the Advent Wreath***

P: *Today is the second Sunday of Advent, the Sunday in which we recall the LOVE we have in Christ.*

***C: The prophets of Israel all spoke of the coming of Christ, of how the Savior would be born, a king of the line of David. They spoke of how he would rule the world wisely and bless the nations.***

P: *On Christmas day the Christ of LOVE was born. On Good Friday the Christ of our LOVE died. On Easter morning the Christ of our LOVE rose from the dead. He then ascended into heaven. On the last day the Christ of LOVE will return again bringing in his kingdom to reign over all the earth.*

***C: As followers of Christ, we await his return. We light this candle to remember that as he came to us humbly in a manager at Bethlehem and gave light to the world, so he is coming again in power to deliver his people.***

P: *We light this candle to remind us to be alert and to watch for his return.*

**SONG - “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” ELW, # 257**

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,

That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.

***Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel.***

2. O, come, O come, great Lord of might, Who to your tribes on Sinai’s height

In ancient times once gave the law In cloud and majesty, and awe.

***Refrain***

3. O come, O Branch of Jesse, free your own from Satan’s tyranny;

From depths of hell your people save, and give them vict’ry o’er the grave.

***Refrain***

**Opening Prayer**

Isaiah 40:1-11

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

**Song– “Love Has Come” ELW, # 292**

1. Love has come a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies. See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;

Hear how their song of joy arises; Love! Love!

Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

1. Love is born! Come, share in the wonder. Love is God now

asleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his mother,

what is the name her heart is saying? Love! Love!

Love is the name she whispers; Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.

1. Love has come and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting

And free. Love is Jesus within and among us.

Love is the peace our hearts are seeking. Love! Love!

Love is the gift of Christmas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Sermon **“God with Us brings LOVE”**

***Litany of Confession and Forgiveness***

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Forgive those moments when we have failed to live as your people, longing for your return. Forgive our moments of selfishness. Forgive our moments of anger. Help keep us alert for you.

P: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgiving us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ as we are strengthen in all goodness with our eyes opened to watch for Christ’s return. May God keep us ever mindful of his coming. In the name of the Father, + and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

**Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers of the Church**

**Communion: Words of Institution**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Closing Song: “Go, My Children, with My Blessing” ELW, # 543**

1. “Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.

In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever.

Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”

1. “Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.

Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.

Here you heard my dear Son’s story, here you touched him, saw his glory.

Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”

P: Go in Peace, serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**