

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the  
Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was  
crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose  
again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand  
of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick  
and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of  
saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life  
everlasting. Amen.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**OFFERTORY** *Duet* Louis-Nicolas Clerambault

**\*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.*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER** (Traditional) Hymnal Page 16

**SENDING FORTH**

**\*HYMN NO. 20** *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night* ABERYSTWYTH

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *We Three Kings* Hymn 66  
*O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright;  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light!*

**POSTLUDE** *Now Come, Savior of the Heathen* J.S. Bach

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

LEBANON, TENNESSEE

*Service for the Lord's Day*

Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018

11:00 a.m.



**THE GATHERING**

*To Glorify God and Enjoy God Forever*

**SILENT MEDITATION**

**PRELUDE** *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come* Johann Pachelbel

**CHIMING THE HOUR**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

## LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Robin & Jack Emmert

Leader: ...Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Let us pray together.

People: (unison) Faithful God, we are glad for your promises to us. We trust that the time is coming when all people will experience comfort, wholeness and liberty. May we do our part to bring your good news of great joy to all. Amen.

Sing: *Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.*

## \*HYMN NO. 41

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

## UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the highest heavens, in this season of Advent we rejoice that you recognize the darkness in our lives. We sing halleluiah that you sent your son to bring us light.

We confess that we don't always acknowledge the signs of your presence.

We ignore your prophets.

We fail to follow your stars.

We seek salvation in the lofty places. We ignore the grace that exists in the low places.

Forgive us, we pray. May we always inhabit the constellation of your love. Amen.

## SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the good news: God is our hope. God is our life.

God is our future.

People: We are forgiven, we are saved! Thanks be to God.

## \*GLORIA

*Gloria in excelsis Deo;*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Hymn No. 23

## \*THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

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\* Those who are able are invited to stand.

## THE WORD OF GOD

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Speak to us, Lord.

Speak to us in the waiting, the watching,

the hoping, the longing,

the sorrow, the sighing, the rejoicing.

Speak to us by your Word in these Advent days,

and walk with us until the day of your coming. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 2:1-12

*Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews?*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## ANTHEM

*Breath of Heaven (Mary's Song)*

Amy Grant & Chris Eaton

*I have traveled many moonless nights, cold and weary with a babe inside. And I wonder what I've done.*

*Holy Father, You have come and chosen me now to carry Your son.*

*I am waiting in a silent prayer. I am frightened by the load I bear.*

*In a world as cold as stone, must I walk this path alone. Be with me now, be with me now.*

*Breath of heaven, hold me together. Be forever near me, breath of heaven.*

*Breath of heaven, lighten my darkness. Pour over me Your holiness, for You are Holy, breath of heaven.*

*Do You wonder as You watch my face, if a wiser one should have had my place?*

*But I offer all I am. For the mercy of Your plan. Help me be strong. Help me be me. Help me.*

## TIME FOR THE CHILDREN

Children are invited to come forward.

## SERMON

*Searching for a King*

Rev. Sherard Edington

## RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

## \*HYMN NO. 66

*We Three Kings of Orient Are (vss. 1-4)*

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT