Order of Worship

**December 1, 2024**

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who are sad and long for comfort;*

*to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want friendship; to all who hunger and thirst for something real and lasting; and to all who come here, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome to you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

**Prelude** (*Please silence cell phones at this time*)

**Welcoming Songs: #526 *“The Solid Rock”***

**Welcome and Greeting**\*

**Advent Reading and Lighting of the Advent Candle:** *Elder Roy Palk & Marilyn List*

**Call to Worship:** *Elder Roy Palk, Liturgist*

 Liturgist: We come from a world of darkness

 **People: Into Christ’s world of light.**

 Liturgist: We come from a world of weariness

 **People: Into God’s strength and hope.**

 **Liturgist:** We come from a distracted world.

 **People: Strengthened by God’s Holy Spirit, we come to awaken our souls and watch for the coming of Christ.**

**Opening Hymn: *#244 “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”***

**Prayer of Confession:**

Leader:O Lord Christ,we confess our willingness to be loved

 **People: but also confess our reluctance to love others.**

 Leader: We confess our readiness to accept Your forgiving love,

 **People: but also our refusal to forgive others.**

 Leader: We confess our eagerness to grasp Your offer of redeeming love,

 **People: but also our resistance to follow You without question.**

 Leader: In this Advent time, forgive us our failure to act and live as we should.

 Come to us anew, and by Your grace, assist us to receive You with joy, with gratitude, with obedience, with love, as You have loved us.

 **People: Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Lord, hear our prayers.**

**Private Confession and Musical Interlude**

**Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel** *Jeanie Smith, Liturgist*

Liturgist:

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. (Isaiah 9.2)*

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

**Congregational Singing: *#245 “O Come O Come Emmanuel”***

**Teaching Moment:**

“It’s (Almost) Here.”

*Pastor Dustin*

*Advent Teaching Series, week 1*

**Pastoral Prayer and 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.***

**Offering and Offertory**

*(You are welcome to place your offering at the plates at this time,*

 *or one of the plates as you leave Worship, which*

*are located near the exits. You may also give online. God bless you!)*

**Offertory Prayer to Thank God and Dedicate Ourselves**

**Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper**

*(The Lord’s Supper will be available in cups as you enter the church. Please hold the bread and cup until we take them together as the body of Christ.)*

**Worship Through Music:** *“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*

**Prayer for the World and those in Need.**

**\*\*\*Announcements**

 *-New Member Class*

 *-Annual Meeting*

**Benediction**