

PROSPECT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
December 2, 2018
ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Greeting

God is good
All the time.
 And all the time.
God is good.

Call to Worship (Advent Candle Lighting)

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

The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares,
 and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

Opening prayer

***Hymn #:88 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* v 1, 2, 6, 7**

**1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
 and ransom captive Israel,
 that mourns in lonely exile here
 until the Son of God appear.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**2. O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
 who orderest all things mightily:
 to us the path of knowledge show;
 and teach us in her ways to go.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**6. O come, thou Dayspring,
 come and cheer
 our spirits by thine advent here;
 disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 and death's dark shadows put to flight.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**7. O come, Desire of nations, bind
 all peoples in one heart and mind;
 bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
 fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.**

***Call to Confession**

***Confession**

We confess, O God, that we have not always been people who held on to hope. We have given into pessimism and despair. Instead of nurturing new life, we have torn it down. We have wandered away from your path to follow our own. You have broken into our midst time and time again. We would have seen you. But it was easier just to close our eyes. Amen.

***Words of Grace**

In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

***The Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you. (A sign of peace is exchanged.)

***Gloria Hymn #113 chorus**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo;
 Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

THE WORD**Prayer for Illumination****First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16**

page 683

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Chat

Rev. Dr. Rick Boyer

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

page 1030

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon*Welcome Hope: Seeing*

Rev. Dr. Rick Boyer

Hymn # 357 *The Days Are Surely Coming

**1. The days are surely coming,
 says God to all the earth,
 when you will see my promise:
 salvation come to birth.
 My righteousness and justice
 will spread throughout the land
 and you will be delivered
 by my almighty hand.**

**2. The days are surely coming,
says Christ, the promised one,
when you will read my warning
in moon and stars and sun.
Though earth and heaven tremble,
stand up and do not fear,
for I am your redeemer,
and I am drawing near.**

**3. The days are surely coming
when we will know at last
the fullness of God's presence,
God's promise, come to pass.
Then righteousness and justice
will spread throughout the land
and we will be delivered
by God's almighty hand.**

***Affirmation of Faith- 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; on 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.

THANKSGIVING

Offering

Musical Offering

***Praise God (Hymn #608)**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Great 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.

Response: # 562 Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
 God of power and might,
 holy, holy, holy Lord,
 God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full,
 full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest,
 hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest,
 hosanna in the highest.

Response #563 Christ Has Died: Christ Is Risen

Christ has died; Christ is risen;
 Christ will come again.

Response #564 Amen

Amen, amen, amen. Amen, amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

God our hope, we give you thanks that you have given us this foretaste of the justice, righteousness, and peace of your promised new creation.

**Strengthen us with this heavenly food as we seek to serve your holy realm.
Lead us to live in joyful expectation of the coming again in glory of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Commission to Extended Communion Servers

**We send you out with this bread and cup to share the feast of the risen Lord.
We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.**

SENDING

Sending the Church into Mission

The Mission of Prospect Church

To be a family in Christ reaching out to all with love, prayer, and service. Through worship, education, mission, and fellowship, we experience God's love, forgiveness, grace, and call.

Hymn # 129 *Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming

**1. Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse's lineage coming,
by faithful prophets sung.
It came, a floweret bright,
amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.**

**2. Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it,
the virgin mother kind.**

**To show God's love aright
she bore for us a Savior,
when half spent was the night.**

**3. This flower, whose fragrance tender
with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor
the darkness everywhere.
Enfleshed, yet very God,
from sin and death he saves us
and lightens every load.**

***Benediction and Congregational Response**

Hymn #109 Blest be the God of Israel (Song of Zechariah) v.1

**1. Blest be the God of Israel,
who comes to set us free;
who visits and redeems us,
who grants us liberty.**

**The prophets spoke of mercy,
of freedom and release;
God shall fulfill that promise
and bring the people peace.**

Postlude