

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**  
**December 21, 2025**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**PRELUDE**

Tommy Clay, Jr.

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**OPENING SENTENCES**

Ron Bloor

Look! The young woman is with child.                      Isaiah 7:14  
**She will call him Emmanuel, for God is with us.**

**LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE**

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

The Lord will give you a sign.  
Look, the young woman is with child.  
**She shall bear a son,**  
**And name him Emmanuel: "God is with us."**

**GATHERING PRAYER**

**God of grace, your eternal word took flesh among us  
when Mary placed her life at the service of your will.  
Prepare our hearts for his coming again; keep us  
steadfast in hope and faithful in service, that we may  
receive the coming of his Kingdom for the sake of Jesus  
Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the  
unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
Amen.**

**HYMN**

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Hymn #133

O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!

*Refrain:*

O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him;

O come, let us adore him,  
Christ, the Lord!  
True God from true God,  
Light from light eternal,  
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
very God, begotten, not created!

*Refrain:*

O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels;  
sing in exultation;  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

*Refrain:*

O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

*Refrain:*

O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ, the Lord!

## **CONFESSION AND PARDON**

**While we ask, Lord, for the most meaningful Advent season ever, we sadly confess having done so little with so much. Forgive us according to your tender mercies, O God! Grant that when Christmas morning breaks for us, we may have a fresh sense of your presence and a renewed resolve to live to the praise of Christ's glory.**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God!**

**GLORIA PATRI**      “Glory Be to the Father”      Hymn #581

“Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end, Amen.”

**ANTHEM**      “Do You Hear What I Hear”      Chancel Choir

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

### **SCRIPTURE**

***First Reading***

Isaiah 7:10-16      p.485, OT

***Second Reading***

Romans 1:1-7      p.116, NT

***Gospel Reading.***

Matthew 1:18-25      p.1, NT

**Isaiah 7:10-16**      p.485, OT

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, <sup>11</sup> “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” <sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” <sup>13</sup> Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. <sup>15</sup> He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup> For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

**Romans 1:1-7**      p.116, NT

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup> which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, <sup>3</sup> the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup> and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup> through whom we have received

grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the gentiles for the sake of his name, <sup>6</sup> including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

<sup>7</sup> To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Matthew 1:18-25** p.1, NT

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." <sup>24</sup> When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife <sup>25</sup> but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** "Grace To You, And Peace " Cliff Lyda

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostle's Creed)**

Hymnal p.35

**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 at 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.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (with the Lord's Prayer)**

Hymnal p.35

**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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**OFFERING MUSIC**

Tommy Clay, Jr.

**DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Hymn #606

“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.”

**HYMN**

“Joy to the World”

Hymn #134

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

## **BLESSING AND CHARGE**

### **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

“Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in This Place”

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;  
I can feel His mighty power and His grace.  
I can hear the brush of angel's wings,  
I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

## **POSTLUDE**

Tommy Clay, Jr.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** (Details on our website, Facebook, Realm & 386-385-3040.)

### **Church Activities**

**Small Groups**-Sunday 9:15 am; Tues. 4:00 pm; Wed. 5:00 pm.

**Presbyterian Women**-Circles meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 10:30am & 6:30pm in the Garden Room.

### **Outreach Ministries**

**Bread of Life**-December needs are Ranch Dressing and Mayonnaise packets, Jar Mayonnaise, Turkey Gravy, Brown Gravy and Pork Gravy Packets, Cream of Mushroom Soup, Ziploc Bags - sandwich size, Ziploc Freezer bags.

**Social Connections**-Thurs. 1pm in Zoom Rm. Contact Shaaron Kohl 864-378-7032.

**Quilting Group**-Friday's at 10:00 in the Zoom Room, Welcoming new members.

**Shower Ministry**-Thurs. from 2-6pm

**PC3 Ministry**-Monday 2-6pm

**Meridian/Grace Market Place**-Thurs. 2-4pm in the Bartram Rm a representative for assistance.

**CDC (Chemical Dependency Counseling)**-Mon. 8-12; Tues. 8-6, Wed. 8-6, Sat. 8-6.

### **New Opportunities**

**Ascend Music Ministry**-contact Felecia Nelson for an interview/audition starting October 11<sup>th</sup> at [pinkorchidjfn@aol.com](mailto:pinkorchidjfn@aol.com).

**Financial Report** – Through November 30<sup>th</sup> Revenue YTD \$224,000.; Expenses YTD \$262,000.; Deficit YTD \$38,000.

**The Brick Opportunity** *to build a space rooted in legacy, community, and faith, one brick at a time. (#15)* For more details go to our website [fpcpalatka.com](http://fpcpalatka.com).