

St. Timothys United Methodist Church
3220 Terrace Drive
319-266-0464
<http://www.sttims-umc.org/>



December 7, 2008 – 10:15 am
Second Sunday of Advent

(Large print bulletins and hymnals and hearing aid devices are available. A nursery is provided for children younger than First Grade. Ask an usher to help you.)

Gathering

Prelude *"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"* Veni, veni, Emmanuel/Arr. Joseph Martin
(We invite you to use the prelude as a time for centering on God, the Holy, the Spirit, the Living Jesus. Please be considerate of others for whom this is a quiet time.)

Greeting and Welcome

Lighting the Advent Candles

Responsively

Leader: The first Advent candle reminds us that we wait in hope. (The first Advent candle is lighted.) We remember our longing for God to be with us. Today we light a second candle (the second candle is lighted). This candle reminds us of our dreams for peace in the world.

All: This candle reminds us that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, is coming.

L: This candle is a symbol of God's promise of peace, and comfort, and strength.

***Opening Hymn**

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

Red hymnal, 203

Unison Prayer

Comfort us, O God. Speak tenderly to us and prepare our way, that we may return from our places of exile and find ourselves clothed in your Spirit, empowered to comfort other exiles. Amen.

Praying

Call to Prayer

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Red hymnal, 211

***"O, come, dear Lord, with mercy and grace,
make strong the weak and heal the human race;***

***The hungry feed, the needy clothe,
that by example we will learn to love.***

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel."

Words by Cynthia A. Douglas, From Alternatives for Simple Living: 800-821-6153.

Sharing Joys and Concerns

(After each joy or concern, we sing, "*O, come, dear Lord, with mercy and grace.*")

Silent Prayer

*Passing the Peace

Listening to the Word

Hebrew Scriptures	Isaiah 40:1-11	Pew Bible, 667
Advent Hymn	" <i>All Earth is Waiting</i> "	Red hymnal, 210
The Christian Gospel	Mark 1:1-8	Pew Bible, 34
Anthem	" <i>English Advent Carol</i> " – Arr. Liebergen	Chancel Choir
Sermon	"Preparing the Way"	Dick Clark
Sermon Response	" <i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i> "	Red hymnal, 211 (1)

Responding to the Word

Announcements and Opportunities

Stewardship Minute

Jay

Offertory Sentence

Liturgist

"Dawn's friend found an old piece of costume jewelry discarded on the street. Although worthless, she liked the weight and look of the necklace. She wore it often, except for the fancy occasions. And then the day came when a jeweler commented on it. You guessed it. The necklace was 18k gold. Our Lord Jesus has inaugurated a new order. It isn't what we think it is. The new order is more precious than we know, much more valuable than we imagine."
-*Seasons of the Spirit*

Offertory

"*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*"

15th Century German Carol/Arr. Phillip Keveren

*Dedication Song

"*Seek Ye First*"

Red hymnal, 405

***Prayer of Dedication**

Unison

O God, may this offering express thanks not only for what you have done, but also for what you are doing and will yet accomplish. May our gifts awaken us to your gift of hope. May our offering be self-giving, an act of solidarity with the hopes and fears of all your children, effecting ministry in Christ's spirit. Amen.

Celebrating Holy Communion

The Invitation to Communion

This is the Lord's Table. We are all invited without exception because Jesus, our Lord, invites us all without exception. The Spirit calls us to gather, to come to this place and meet the Living Jesus. Come with open hands and open hearts. Come now and take your place at this table where Jesus is Host.

The Great Thanksgiving

Red hymnal, 15-16

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***Sharing the Bread and Cup**

(Everyone is invited to come forward, receive the bread, dip it in the cup, and partake. Please bring a Communion offering for our St. Tims Hunger Fund, which helps provide food, utilities, and rent for needy families.)

Unison Prayer

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Going Forth

***Closing Song**

"Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice"

Black hymnal, 2089

***Blessing**

***Blessing Response**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Red hymnal, 211 (4)

***Postlude**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Plainsong/Arr. Mark Hayes

* = The Congregation is invited to stand