

# Order Of Worship :: December 4, 2011 :: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

The Season After Pentecost lasts from the day after Pentecost to the day before Advent. Thus it begins on 13 June 2011 and ends on 26 November 2011. It is essentially the part of the year that is left over after everything has been accounted for. The name of this season varies widely from church to church—it can be called Kingdomtide, Dominiontide, or Ordinary Time.

## GREETING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good, that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## CALL TO WORSHIP: Isaiah 2:2-5

In days to come the mountain of the LORD’s house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say,

**“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.”**

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they 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. **O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!**

## SONG OF APPROACH: Go Tell it on the Mountain

**Words by John Work, 1907. Music: African-American spiritual.**

*Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev’rywhere*

*Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born*

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night  
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light

*chorus*

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! Above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus the hailed our Savior’s birth

*chorus*

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born  
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn

*chorus*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

**Lord, we have not kept watch for you. We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns. We have not waited to find your will for us. We have not noticed the needs of the people around us. We have not acknowledged the love that has been shown to us. Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness. Help us to wait to know your will. Help us to look out for the needs of others. Help us to work and watch for your coming. Amen.**

Now is a time of silent confession for specific and personal sins.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON: from Zephaniah 3:14-18

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

**Thanks Be to God!**

## SONG OF CONFESSION: All Who Are Thirsty

**Words and Music by Benton Brown and Glenn Robertson 1998**

All Who are thirsty, All Who are weak  
Come to the fountain, Dip your heart in the stream of life  
Let the pain and the sorrow be washed away  
in the waves of His mercy as deep cries out to deep.

*We sing*

*Come Lord Jesus Come.*

*Come Lord Jesus Come.*

*Come Lord Jesus Come.*

Repeat first verse

*We sing*

*Come Lord Jesus Come. (repeat)*

*Holy Spirit Come Holy Spirit Come*

## SONG OF PRAISE: Break forth O Beauteous Heavenly

**Light**

**Words by Johann Rist, 1641; Music: Village Church E.A. 2010**

Break Forth O Beauteous Heavenly Light  
And Usher in the morning  
O Shepherds Shrink with not afright  
But hear the angel's Warning

This Child now weak in infancy  
Our confidence and joy shall be  
The pow'r of Satan Breaking  
Our peace eternal making

Break forth O Beauteous Heavenly Light  
To Herald our salvation  
He Stoops to earth the God of Might  
Our Hope and expectation

He comes in human flesh to dwell  
Our God with us Immanuel  
The night of darkness ending  
Our fallen race befriending

*Gloria!! the christ is born*

Angels we have heard on High  
Sweetly singing o're the plains  
And the mountains in reply  
Echo back their joyous strains

*Gloria!!!! the Christ is born*

## CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles Creed

Christian what is it that you believe?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**Who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children, crawling - 5 years old, are dismissed to Sunday School at this time.

## SONG OF REFLECTION: Silent Night

**Words by Josef Mohr, ca. 1816-1818. Music by Franz Gruber, ca. 1820.**

Silent Night Holy Night

All is calm all is Bright

Roun Yon virgin Mother and child

Holy infant so tender and mild

Sleep in Heavenly Peace

Sleep in Heavenly Peace

Silent Night Holy Night

Son of God, Love's pure light

Radiant Beams from thy holy face

With the dawn of redeeming Grace

Jesus Lord at thy Birth, Jesus Lord at thy Birth

Silent Night, Holy Night

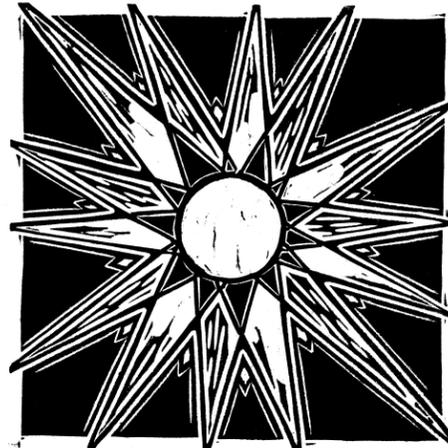
Wondrous star, Lend thy Light

With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our king

Christ our Savior is Born,

Christ our Savior is Born

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



## OLD TESTAMENT READING: Jeremiah 29:4–7

<sup>4</sup> “Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: <sup>5</sup> Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce. <sup>6</sup> Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. <sup>7</sup> But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God.

**People: Praise to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!**

## SERMON: You, The Church, and The World

The Rev. Matthew Armstrong

Acts 5:12–16

<sup>12</sup> Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon’s Portico. <sup>13</sup> None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. <sup>14</sup> And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, <sup>15</sup> so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. <sup>16</sup> The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## THE OFFERING

We consider the giving of tithes and offerings to be part of our worship and for those who consider Village Church their home. Visitors should not feel any obligation to give.

## SONG OF PRAISE: Lead Me to the Cross

**by Brooke Frasier, 2004**

Savior I come, Quiet my soul remember  
Redemptions hill, Where Your blood was spilled, for my ransom  
Everything I once held dear I count it all as loss

*Lead me to the cross Where Your love poured out*

*Bring me to my knees Lord I lay me down*

*Rid me of myself I belong to You*

*Lead me, lead me to the cross*

You were as I tempted and tried, Human  
The Word became flesh bore my sin and death, Now you're risen  
Everything I once held dear I count it all as loss

*Chorus*

To your heart, To your heart.

Lead me to your heart

Lead me to your heart

*Chorus*

## COMMUNION

*Invitation to the Table  
Prayer of Thanksgiving*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts!

**We lift them up to the Lord!**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Words of Institution  
Breaking Bread Together*

## 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



## SONG OF THANKSGIVING: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Words by Charles Wesley 1745. Music/arr. by Derek Webb 2000.

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

*Come thou long awaited Emmanuel.*

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,  
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

*Chorus*

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Sundays at 10:00 am

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## BENEDICTION: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13

May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus, together with all his saints.

**Amen**

## SENDING

In accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

**Amen**

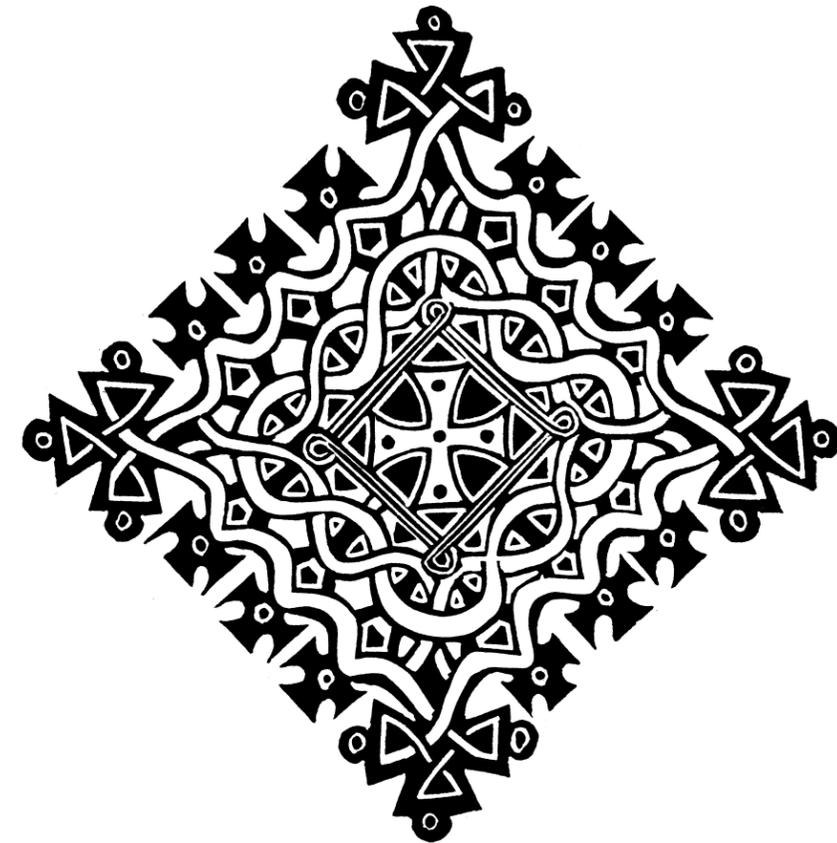
## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Christmas Hymn Sing** - Join us for a special Hymn Sing tonight, December 4th at 6:30pm at the home of David and Mary Fraser. To RSVP or for more information please e-mail Mary Fraser at [mary.elisabeth.fraser@gmail.com](mailto:mary.elisabeth.fraser@gmail.com).

**Christmas Eve Service** - Village Church will be celebrating Christmas Eve together with two sister churches, City Church Eastside and Renovation Church. There will be two services at 4:30p and 6:00p at City Church Eastside (112 Krog Street, Suite 5, Atlanta, GA 30307). We will not be having a Christmas Day service.

**Stay Connected** - Want to know about upcoming events and happenings at Village Church and the neighborhood? Sign up for our weekly emails on our website: [www.villagechurchofeastatlanta.org/connect](http://www.villagechurchofeastatlanta.org/connect).

# Celebrating Advent



## WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH!

We hope you feel welcomed during your time with us today. As a new church we are still fleshing out what and who we will be here in East Atlanta. But at a minimum *we desire to be a church that is in, of, and for East Atlanta Village and its surrounding neighborhoods.* We believe that the church is not a place to go, or an event to attend, but *a community of people* who have been changed by the love and grace of God in Jesus Christ. As those who have been so loved, the church is called to love and bless whatever place it finds itself. That's why we hope to not only be a church that meets *in* the neighborhood, or is simply made up of people from the neighborhood, but we desire to be *for* the neighborhood, working for its care and welfare. We hope that you experience this during our time of worship together this morning.