



December 5, 2021

*Second Sunday of Advent*

**Prelude**

“People Look East/Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”  
Joshua Herrington, piano

arr. J. Herrington

**Welcome**

Rev. Dr. Adrian N. Doll

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

*The Bethlehem Candle*

Bruce and Pat Benke, Terry McClain (9:00)

Sylvia and David Ashby (10:30)

**\*Hymn of Advent**

“People Look East”

No. 105, vs. 1, 4, and 5 – Glory to God Hymnal

People, look east. The time is near  
of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able;  
trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth  
Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming  
With the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim  
one more light the bowl shall brim,  
shining beyond the frosty weather,  
bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Star, is on the way.

**\*Responsive Prayer of Confession**

God of Wonder and Grace,

You reveal yourself to us in the most unexpected of ways:

**In a burning bush at Sinai; in the parting of the Red Sea;  
In the rush of the wind; and in divinely inspired dreams.**

Lord, you speak to us in the most unanticipated of possibilities:

**Through the voice of the prophets of old;  
In the witness of an angel; in the cry of the Babe of Bethlehem.**

But we confess that we have not always listened for your voice.

We have doubted your appearing.

Like Zechariah of old, we, too, have been hesitant to trust and believe.

We have questioned your ability to perform miracles in our lives.

**Forgive us we pray. Silence us with holy wonder.**

**And may we, in our lives, give evidence to your wonders and might  
during this Holy Season of Advent and always. Amen.**

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Response**

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

**The Children's Sermon**

**Old Testament Reading** – Isaiah 57:14-15

Jerry Cooper (9:00)

John Noel (10:30)

**Choral Anthem**

“Waiting for Bethlehem’s Light”  
Chancel Choir ~ Joshua Herrington, piano

Dale Peterson

**New Testament Reading** – Luke 1:8-20

**Sermon**

“The Silence of Hope”  
Sermon Series: *People of Hope*

Rev. Dr. Adrian N. Doll

**Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts**

**Offertory**

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”  
Michael Tierney, vocalist ~ Joshua Herrington, piano

arr. Steven C. Chapman

**\*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication**

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

**\*The Apostles' Creed**

**The Sacrament of Communion**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**The Prayers of God's People**

**\*Hymn of Advent**

“Angels From the Realms of Glory”

No. 259, vs. 1, 4, and 5 – Celebration Hymnal

Angels, from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

*Refrain:*  
*Come and worship, come and worship;*  
*Worship Christ, the new-born King.*

Saints before the alter bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending  
In His temple shall appear: *(refrain)*

Tho' an infant now we view Him,  
He will share His Father's throne;  
Gather all the nations to Him;  
Every knee shall then bow down: *(refrain)*

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

“Now Thank We All Our God”  
Joshua Herrington, organ

J. S. Bach

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## **Today at GVPC**

This Tuesday, December 7, we remember the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Jesus said, “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” This week may each one of us take a moment to honor and remember those who lost their lives in defense of freedom and democracy.

**Greetings** - A very warm welcome to all worshipping with us this morning. Please record your attendance in the black friendship pad located in the pew back. We invite all visitors to the welcome table located in the Narthex to learn more about GVPC.

**Welcome** - This morning we welcome Joshua Herrington as our guest pianist and choral director. Joshua earned both a Bachelor of Music in Performance and a Master of Music in Conducting from Central Florida State University. He is currently Associate Director of the Las Vegas Sinfonietta, rehearsal pianist for the Nevada Ballet Theater, and a part-time instructor at the University of Nevada Las Vegas.

**Sanctuary Flowers** - Today’s flowers are given by Sherri Brewer in celebration of her grandson, Jacob’s 14<sup>th</sup> birthday ~ December 7. Happy Birthday!

**Coffee Hour** - Join us in Fellowship Hall at 10:00 am this morning for refreshments and fellowship. Today’s coffee hour is hosted by Ruth Kinney.

**Usher Training Canceled** - Usher training scheduled for today at 11:30 am is **canceled** and will be rescheduled for January.

**Sunday School** - For elementary students (K – 5<sup>th</sup>) is offered today during the 10:30 am service in the Christian Education Building. Nursery care for ages 0 - 5 years is available in the C.E. Bldg.

**Youth Group** - All junior and senior high youth are invited to join us today from 12:00 – 2:00 pm in the fellowship hall for our Christmas Party and gift exchange.

## **This Week at GVPC**

**Advent Blog** – Pastor Adrian’s 2021 Advent Blog will be published twice weekly on our Facebook page, Instagram, and the church website.

**Hoodie Offering** - Thanks to the touching generosity of our GVPC congregation, this year’s Hoodie-Coat Drive was truly blessed by being able to provide **789** Hoodies to our local area school children and youth in need at 12 elementary, middle, and high schools. A grateful thank you to the Knit-Wits for the hundreds of beautiful hand knitted scarves and to all who helped bring blessings of warmth in Christ's service, Missions Committee.

**Christmas Joy Offering** - During this season of Advent, please consider contributing to the Christmas Joy Offering, which provides critical assistance to current and retired Presbyterian church ministers, staff workers, missionaries and their families, and to Presbyterian-affiliated ethnic schools assisting students in developing their gifts. You can use the special purple envelopes found in the pews or make an online donation on the GVPC website under the Christmas Joy Offering.

**Christmas Flowers** - All are invited to purchase Christmas flowers to decorate the Sanctuary during the Season of Christmas. Orders may be placed at the table in the Narthex beginning today through December 19. The price is \$20.00 per plant.

## Joys and Concerns

*Please keep the following GVPC family and friends in your thoughts and prayers:*

**Pam Bower** is now home from the rehabilitation facility and is continuing her recovery from a fall earlier this month that resulted in a fractured hip and pelvis. Pam continues to be in pain. Please pray for a full recovery.

**Matthew Dakus** remains in ICU in Little Rock, Arkansas for ongoing care following a severe accident. The family gives thanks for each step of progress. Please hold Matthew and his entire family in your prayers at this difficult time.

Richard Dixon and Che' Swanson send their heartfelt thanks for all the prayers regarding their granddaughter, **Halle's** spinal surgery last week. It was a long surgery; she is expected to make a full recovery over the next few weeks.

**Bud and Evangeline Gross** are both home from the hospital recovering from COVID-19. Thank you for your prayers.

**Lois Mendrek** continues her recovery at Sage Creek Rehabilitation Center where she underwent an MRI last week to determine the level of her injuries. Prayers for favorable test results and full recovery.

**Dave O'Neill** will undergo a 2<sup>nd</sup> knee replacement surgery on Monday December 6<sup>th</sup> in San Francisco. Please pray for a successful surgery and recovery period.

We give God thanks that **Ray Phifer's** test results following a recent surgery were negative for cancer. Ray and Chris thank everyone for their prayers.

**Lydia Sarandan** is undergoing medical testing in Newport Beach, CA for a recent medical episode. Prayers for favorable test results.

**Chuck Smith** continues to be under hospice care at home in California. Chuck and Eileene want to thank you for your ongoing prayers.



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