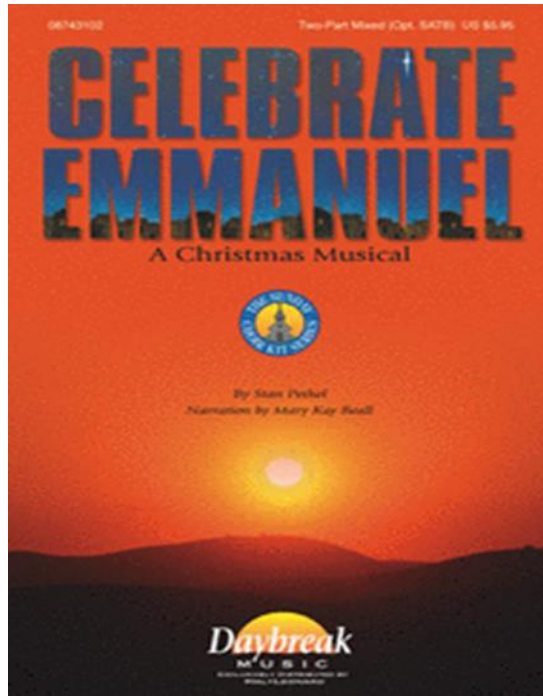


Calvin Sinclair & Christ Presbyterian Congregations

Meeting during December at 2000 1st Ave. NW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405 319-364-3612
December 22, 2019



Worship Leader
Ministers
Organist
Pianist
Choir Director
Church Secretary

The Rev. Dr. Dennis Morey
All members of the Congregation
Marcy Luxa
Jean Stonerook
Nancy Patrick
Judith Albert

Christ Presbyterian and Calvin Sinclair Congregations 4th Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2019

10:30 A.M.

Called to love, serve and witness.

Thought as we enter to worship:

Music is one of the most important components in worshiping God. Again and again, we read in the Scriptures, "Sing to the Lord". It was the Jewish custom for neighbors to come and sing at the home, to welcome a new baby. Although Mary and Joseph were far from their home in Nazareth, when Jesus was born in Bethlehem, we may assume there were no neighbors and friends to sing at his birth. However, we read in the Gospel of Luke about the Angels coming to announce the birth of Jesus to the shepherds and how the Angel Choir sang to welcome God coming into the world as a human. We sing to welcome Him into our world

GATHERING MUSIC "Gesu Bambino" arr. by Melody Bober

"O Holy Night" (Inspired by Debussy's Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum) arr. by Faye Lopez

"Angels We Have Heard on High/ Angels from the Realms of Glory" arr. by Mac Huff

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION -- CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING Lynn McVey

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace, love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE PEOPLE OF GOD ARE CALLED TO WORSHIP

THE PRELUDE (a time to quiet our hearts and focus our attention on The Lord God and the marvelous love given to us in Christ Jesus.)

"Celebration Medley" arr. by Mona Rejino, p. 8

THE INTROIT – CHANCEL CHOIR**CALL TO WORSHIP: ROMANS 5: 1-5 MSG**

Leader: By entering through faith into what God has always wanted to do for us—set us right with him, make us fit for him—we have it all together with God because of our Master Jesus. And that’s not all: We throw open our doors to God and discover at the same moment that he has already thrown open his door to us. We find ourselves standing where we always hoped we might stand—out in the wide open spaces of God’s grace and glory, standing tall and shouting our praise.

ALL: There’s more to come: We continue to shout our praise even when we’re hemmed in with troubles, because we know how troubles can develop passionate patience in us, and how that patience in turn forges the tempered steel of virtue, keeping us alert for whatever God will do next. In alert expectancy such as this, we’re never left feeling shortchanged. Quite the contrary—we can’t round up enough containers to hold everything God generously pours into our lives through the Holy Spirit!

THE HYMN OF PRAISE #41 O Come All Ye Faithful

THE OPENING PRAYER:

***CALL TO CONFESSION** If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9 NIV

THE TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

THE UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Today, on this 4th Advent Sunday, Holy God, we have lit the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love understanding that these are brought to us by your continued grace. You have reached out to us presenting the wonderful Gift of your Son. Such awesome love prompts us to look at ourselves and ask the question, “What makes us worthy of such love?” we hear your word answer, “it is not by our worth but because of your goal to have a relationship with us”. You have made a way for us to have our sins forgiven. That is the reason you sent Jesus. What magnificent love. We confess we are sinners in need of your

forgiveness. We accept Jesus as our way of knowing you. We offer our prayers in his name. Amen

THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE: Romans 5:9-11

Now that we are set right with God by means of this sacrificial death, the consummate blood sacrifice, there is no longer a question of being at odds with God in any way. If, when we were at our worst, we were put on friendly terms with God by the sacrificial death of his Son, now that we’re at our best, just think of how our lives will expand and deepen by means of his resurrection life! Now that we have actually received this amazing friendship with God, we are no longer content to simply say it in plodding prose. We sing and shout our praises to God through Jesus, the Messiah!

THE GLORIA #579 “Glory Be to the Father”

***THE PEOPLE OF GOD HEAR THE WORD OF GOD
THROUGH CHILDREN’S TIME A Cup of Christmas Tea***

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD BY PRESENTING TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE CALL TO DEDICATION:

THE OFFERTORY “What Child is This?” arr. by Mac Huff

#592 The Doxology “Responding in Praise”

THE UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

Holy God, the marvels of your love constantly inspire us to live at our best. You have blessed us beyond measure, and now we bring tithes and offerings to bless the lives of those who need to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ. Help us to be the avenue through which your presence flows to the world around us. During these days before Christmas, keep us focused on your plan. With glad hearts we give in the name of Jesus. Amen

***THE PEOPLE OF GOD ARE INVITED TO BRING OUR PETITIONS TO GOD
Sharing Joys and Concerns***

The Time of Silent Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

We Pray Together: 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, and the power and the glory forever.

Amen.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD BY LISTENING

THE CHANCEL CHOIR: "Celebrate Emmanuel"

Arranged by Stan Pethel

With additional music by Michael Card, Amy Grant, Chris Eaton,
Michael W. Smith and traditional Christmas Carols

AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD, WE ARE CALLED OUT TO SERVE GOD'S KINGDOM

THE CLOSING PRAYER and BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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****Please rise in body and/or spirit as you are able.***