



First Presbyterian
Maumee
LOVE FIRST

December 4, 2022, 10:45 Traditional Service

The Promise of a Savior
The Second Sunday of Advent

Prelude "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" Pachelbel
Welcome & Announcements Pastor Tolbert

GOD'S PEOPLE OF HOPE GATHER

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Paul & Chris LaPorta

One: Advent is a time of waiting. We wait in anticipation of Christmas, the celebration of Christ's birth.

All: We wait in expectation and hope for the day when Christ comes again, the full coming of God's kingdom.

One: How are we to wait?

All: We wait in hope.

(Lighting of the first candle.)

One: The psalmist reminds us to also wait in peace and follow God's word.

(Reading from Psalm 119:165-166)

One: Today, we light this candle in peace, the peace of our coming Savior, Jesus Christ.

All: As we wait, let us be people of peace.

(Lighting of the second candle & reading from 2 Peter 3:14-15)

One: How are we to wait?

All: We wait in hope and in peace, knowing we have the promise of a Savior!

*Hymn "Comfort, Comfort You My People!" No. 3

WE APPROACH OUR HOLY GOD

*Call to Confession & Prayer of Confession

Pastor Armstrong

One: Merciful God, who always was, always is, and is to come: We confess that we do not always know how to prepare for your Advent. We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we have ignored the promise of your kingdom; we get distracted by all the busyness of this season.

All: Forgive us, God. Help us to put our hope in you, to look toward the promise of your kingdom, and to keep our eyes fixed on you.

“O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.”

(Silence for personal confession.)

*Assurance of Pardon & Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share with one another a sign of Christ’s peace.

*Response **“Gloria” (from Angels We Have Heard on High)**

No. #23

WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD

Sermon

“Esther Leads”

Pastor Tolbert

Esther 4:1-17 (p. 495)

WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO THE LORD

Song of Response

“Rise Up”

Celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor Tolbert

The Great Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts!

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Prayers for God’s People & the Lord’s Prayer

Pastor Tolbert

Offering

Please make your tithes and offerings for the work of the church by giving as you depart the sanctuary, mailing a check to the church office, or by using the “give” button at the top right-hand corner of the church website. A QR code is also available on the giving card in the pews.

***Hymn**

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

No. 5

GO INTO THE WORLD AS GOD’S OWN CHILDREN

*Charge and Blessing

Pastor Tolbert

***Response**

Benediction (“May the Peace”)

*Postlude

“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”

Miller

** Please rise, in body or in spirit.*

Worship Leaders Today

Senior Pastor: Clint Tolbert

Assistant Pastor: Jason Armstrong

Director of Worship & Music: Kristen Woodard

Organist: Wayne Whitten

Tech Team: Paul LaPorta, Josh Pollard, Bill Woodruff

Communion Service Today

As we share in the celebration of the Lord’s Supper today, those wishing to receive communion will be coming forward, down the center aisle, to receive the elements from the table. Please pick up bread and a cup of juice and return to your seat (by way of the side aisle) to partake of the elements. For those who moving to the front is not as easy to do, please remain in your seats. Communion Servers will be stationed in the side aisles and will come and serve you.