

**St Paul's
UCC**

**Henderson
MN**

**November
27th,
2022**



Organ Prelude

**Ringling of
the Bell**

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

**People: Blessed be God's name forever.
Amen.**

Leader: Beloved, now is the time to wake from
sleep. Let us confront our sins,
and confess them to the one
who is merciful and just.

God of great expectations, we come to
you in this time of silent confession.

People of God, expect the
unexpected.

God gives us living signs:
New things are growing in our midst
and tender branches spring forth.

This is our life expectancy.

By water and the Spirit we
are joined to this wonder.

We have put on ☩ Christ,
and our sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of our God, where
and when we least expect it.

Amen.

O come, O come Emmanuel #86

O come, O come, Emmanuel

And ransom captive Israel

That mourns in lonely exile here

Until the Son of God appear

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, Thou Dayspring,
come and cheer

Our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, Thou Wisdom
from on high

And order all things, far and nigh
To us the path of knowledge show

And cause us in her ways to go

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease
And be Thyself our
King of peace
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

***Opening Prayer**

Stir up your power, Lord Christ (holy pause).

Awaken us to your promise (holy pause).

Make us ready for your justice (holy pause).

We ask this in the name of the One who brings salvation near.

Amen.

Gloria Patri

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.***



Welcome
So glad you're here...

Lighting of The Advent Candle - Hope



Holy
Bible

CHILDREN'S SERMON



Scripture Reading Matthew 24:36-44

[Jesus said to the disciples,] “About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man.

Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

THE SERMON



Come thou Long Expected Jesus #79

**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.

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

Pastoral Prayer - Silent Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

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 and ever.

Cares Chorus

*I cast all of my cares upon you.
I lay all of my burdens down at your feet.
And any time I don't know what to do,
I will cast all of my cares upon you.*



Invitation

Offertory Music

OFFERING
WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD



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.***

**God of hope, what we offer here, we give
for your transformation.**

What we share, we bring with gladness.

**Receive these simple gifts
and make us messengers of your mercy
and love. Amen.**

OFFERING PRAYER

***Benediction**

L: The shadows are long...

C: but we await the light.

L: The ax threatens judgment...

C: but we work for justice.

L: The mighty seek power...

C: but we labor for mercy.

L: The powerful resist transformation...

C: but we see the world about to turn.

L: The wait drags on...

C: but the angels stir in anticipation.

L: The faithful labor in darkness...

C: and the expected child is born among us.

L: May the God + of Great Expectation be with you through Advent, that you may find hope, peace, joy and love.

Hark, the glad Sound #82

Hark the glad sound! The Savior

comes,

the Savior promised long;

let every heart prepare a throne

and every voice a song.

And every voice a song.

He comes the
prisoners to release,
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass
before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.
The iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken
heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures
of his grace,
to enrich the humble poor.
To enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas,
Prince of Peace,
your welcome shall proclaim,
and heaven's eternal arches ring,
with your beloved name.
With your beloved name.

***Dismissal**

L: Go in peace and in hope-filled expectation. Watch; wait; pray; dream.

C: Thanks be to God.