

“She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus,
for he will save his people from their sins.”

Matthew 1:21



Affton Presbyterian Church
3410 Lemay Ferry Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63125
314-631-9217 <https://afftonpc.org/>

December 20, 2020

Meet with us online or via phone at 10 am:
Look under “Updates” on our site to join online
or call 312-626-6799 and when prompted
enter the Meeting ID: 942 617 477 (followed by #).

When asks for a Participant ID number, dial #.
On the phone, dial *6 to mute or unmute yourself.

If asked for a password, enter 3410.

Service for the Lord's Day

Words of Welcome & Announcements

Advent Candle lighting (Hope, Love, Joy and Peace)

From the Book of Common Worship, PCUSA

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent means coming. We are preparing ourselves for the days when the nations 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 anymore. Isa. 2:4

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. Isa. 11:6

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. Isa. 35:1

The Lord will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel (God is with us). Isa. 7:14b

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Advent video will play now.

Call to Worship

One: We come to glorify God, to rejoice in the One who saves us.

Many: God comes, so we might believe, so we might be blessed.

One: Our hearts leap for joy! For God is coming to us in a child.

Many: God comes for those who hunger for hope, for those who thirst for grace.

One: Holy is the One who comes in God's name, who fulfills every promise of God.

Many: God comes to walk with those who follow in faith, to bring peace to a shattered world.

Hymn #31

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Prayer of Confession

We confess we are not the people you hope us to be, Advent God. The very ones you favor. All too often, we ignore them, or worse fill them with ridicule. The ones you knock off their pedestals. We continue to admire them, seeking to emulate their ways. The drumbeat for more and more? We give into the rhythm so easily; we risk being sent away empty.

Forgive us, Mighty God who comes in the weakness of a baby. Look with grace upon us, so we might see your love shining down. We could live secure in your hope, we could be the ones of peace for our world, we could learn to do your will, if we but welcome Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, into our hearts and into our lives. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Response “Gloria Patri”

Passing the Peace

One: The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

Many: and also, with you.

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

Prayer of Illumination

O God, your Word is more precious than fine gold, and sweeter than purest honey. As we turn to your Scripture, send your Holy Spirit to infuse your Word with truth and grace — so that the good news of your love would shine before our eyes and delight our senses ... so that we cannot help but respond with wonder, faith and trust. Amen.

Scripture: Luke 2:1-18

Sermon: What Difference Does Christmas Make? Rev. Doug Mankell

Hymn #23

Angels We Have Heard on High

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering Checks may be mailed to the church

Response of Praise

“Doxology”

Prayer of Dedication:

In these moments, God who comes, remind us of those who are yearning to be lifted to their feet, those who hunger for hope, those who look for peace, and may our gifts be used to serve them. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn #40

Joy to the World!

Charge and Benediction