

Affton Presbyterian Church

Calling, equipping and sending people to experience life through Jesus Christ

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St. Louis, MO
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<https://afftonpc.org/>



December 18, 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Service for the Lord's Day

Words of Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

↑Call to Worship

The day of the Lord is surely coming;
the promise of God will be fulfilled.

Song "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" #9, vs 1

The Lord will give you a sign.
Look, the young woman is with child.
**She shall bear a son,
and name him Emmanuel: "God is with us"**
Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

↑Hymn #9 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" vs 2 & 3

Prayer of Confession

God of midnight, you meet us in the nighttime with the news of a baby. We confess that we do not always look for you in the dark, among the dispossessed, or in the arms of single mothers. We live casual lives, forgetting your surprising work and dismissing our most outrageous dreams. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Give us new and softer hearts, so that we may awake in faith and courage and tenderly reach for the coming Christ Child, who is Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

↑Response "Creator of the Stars of Night" #4, vs 4

↑Passing the Peace

Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture

Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon

↑Hymn #11

“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?”

↑Affirmation of Faith

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

Offering

↑Response of Praise

“Doxology”

↑Prayer of Dedication

God of wild imaginings and wilder dreams, you have made us and all things to serve you with bold and brave faith. As we return these gifts to you, establish in us a new attentiveness to your Spirit, so that, with Joseph, we may know you when you speak and together watch for the surprising and glorious return of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

↑Hymn GTG #107 “Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn!”

↑Charge and Benediction

Postlude

The people serving you...

Musician: Lynette Milles
Liturgist: Anna Belveal
Pastor: Rev. Hannah Zyla

Please remember in your prayers...

Gerry Blades, Jean Bush, Bill Campey, Barb Cavicchia, Joanne Goin, Marian Lloyd, Joe Maze, Elmer Nesselhauf, Wanda O'Neal, Mary Philips, and Clifford Smith

Getting in touch with the pastor:

If you are a visitor wanting to know more about Affton Presbyterian Church, a lifelong member looking for information or care, or just want to say hello, please don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor Hannah Zyla. She would be happy to meet and talk with you at your convenience.

Phone: 415-847-3573

Email: hannah.d.zyla@gmail.com

Office hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 9am-3pm

ZOOM Instructions for homebound:

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.