SENDING

*Hymn "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn" Hymnal #107

*Benediction

*Congregational Response

"Go Forth to Serve the Lord"
(sung to the tune of "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord")
Go forth to serve the Lord rejoicing on your way.
Reach out in love God's plan fulfilled 'til comes His glorious day.

*Postlude

Serving Today

Greeter
Liturgist
Coffee Host
Welcome Table

Barbara Reisweber
Mike Gehl
Nancy Harber
Kate Cameron

Communion Servers Kathy Hays, Ron Gonzales, Kim Stiles, Paula Carmack

Staff

Pastor
Rev. Dr. Sam Codington
Director of Music Ministry
Joe Rodriguez

Interim Director of

Meghan Stubbs

Preschool

Spiritual DirectorMary Elva SmithOffice AdministratorJames KellyMedia TechnicianStephen DichieraCustodianAgustin UruetaSextonRobin Craiq

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Office Hours are Monday - Thursday, 9-12 and 1-4

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Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/faithchurchsd/



Faith Presbyterian Church



A family of Christ, welcoming all, worshiping God, growing in the Spirit and joyously serving others.

Inclusive • Nurturing • Justice-Seeking

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Sam Codington

Please rise in body or spirit, where you see an asterisk. *

1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT and COMMUNION SUNDAY

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

DECEMBER 3, 2023 9:30 AM

GATHERING

Music for Meditation

Welcome

Words for Preparation:

"Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved" Psalm 80:3

*Gathering Song "Emmanuel" Renew #28

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel. God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.

Choral Introit "Holy, Holy is the Lord" F. Schubert

Call to Worship Mike Gehl

Leader: In God's house, we can be joyful.

All: We can be grateful. We can be hopeful.

Leader: In God's house, we can be weary.

All: We can be anxious. We can be grieving.

Leader: In God's house, we can be honest.

All: We can be inspired or tired, delighted or doubtful, connected or

curious, and everything in between.

Leader: This is God's house. You are welcome exactly as you are.

All: Let us worship our loving God.

*Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Hymnal #88 v. 1-3, 6

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Tuesday Eves

Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Leader: Friends, in today's scripture passage, a man named Zechariah is given good news from God and his response is to ask, "How can this be?" Have any of you ever felt that way when receiving good news? It can be hard to receive good news when we don't expect it. It can be hard to accept God's grace and God's love when we think we don't deserve it. But friends, scripture tells us over and over again of a loving, generous, and gracious God. So may we come to the prayer of confession today, not with fear, but with an awe so deep that we ask ourselves, "How can this be?" Let us pray:

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Gracious God, we are weary. For weary bodies that ache and cry out, we

All: Forgive us for pushing ourselves too hard. Reminds us that we deserve

Sabbath rest.

Leader: For weary minds that feel overwhelmed and saturated with news, we pray:

Forgive us for creating so many distractions. Remind us that in the All:

quiet, we can hear you.

Leader: For weary hearts that long to feel the joy of this season, we pray:

Forgive us for being impatient with ourselves. Remind us that healing All: takes time, and that joy and grief can coexist.

Leader: For the weary edges of our faith that struggle to hold onto hope,

Forgive us. Remind us of Zechariah and Elizabeth. Remind us that your All:

good news knows no bounds. Amen.

(Silent Confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Family of faith, no matter how many times we wear ourselves thin, no matter how many times we lose ourselves to distractions, no matter how many times we ask ourselves, "How can this be?" God's love keeps showing up for us.

We are loved. We are claimed. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God! All:

"Gloria Patri" Hvmnal #582 *Response

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.

PROCLAIMING

Choral Anthem

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

G. Holst

Sermon on the Steps

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Lesson (NRSV)

Luke 1:5-23

Leader: For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us.

All: Thanks be to God!

"How Can This Be?" Sermon

Rev. Dr. Sam Codington

RESPONDING

"My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout" *Hymn Hymnal #100

*Apostles' Creed

Communion

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving Words of Institution

Prayers of the People

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. Amen.

Offertory

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

All: God of today and God of tomorrow, you invite us to bring our full selves into your house. Kindle hope in our hearts. Help us to bring our full selves in service of hope and healing in this world you love. Amen.