

**Edgewood Presbyterian Church  
Homewood, Alabama  
First Sunday of Advent  
December 1, 2024**

**\*\*Please text any prayer requests to 205-924-5080 before the Sharing of the Peace.  
Please include your name, unless you wish the request to be anonymous. \*\***

**Prayer of Preparation**     *(silent prayer)*

In you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits. Truly, my hope is in you. Amen.

**Chiming of the Trinity**

**Waters of Baptism**             *All children are invited to gather at the baptismal font.*

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Lighting of the First Advent Candle**

Hazel Bowdon

Lynn Frennea, Liturgist

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 any more.**

Heaven and earth will pass away,  
**But the word of God endures forever.**

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

Gather us in, O God.  
**Let us magnify your light in our worship!**

**Prayer of the Day**

## Hymn 88

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL

[VV. 1-3,5 7]

1 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.

2 O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
who orderest all things mightily:  
to us the path of knowledge show;  
and teach us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

5 O come, thou Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might,  
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the law  
in cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife, and discord cease;  
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

## Invitation to Reconciliation

### Prayer of Brokenness

**Holy and beloved God, it is hard to hope when the shadows creep in.  
It is hard to hope when the days are short.  
It is hard to hope when we turn away from suffering.  
Yet, your light shines.  
Your hope abides with us, awakening us to your love,  
and calling us to share your light with each other.  
We are in need of your forgiveness, your peace, your hope,  
your comfort, and your welcome.  
Come, Holy Spirit, refresh us, reorient us and show us  
the true wonder of these days.  
We offer to you in silence the troubles of our hearts...**

*(Silent Confession)*

### Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel:  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, and restored to new life!**

**Gloria**      *Refrain from "Angels We Have Heard on High"*

**Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis deo.  
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis deo.**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Reading from the Prophets**

**Jeremiah 33: 14-16**

The Word of God for the people of God.    **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalter**

**Psalms 25: 1-10**

<sup>1</sup> To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup> **O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame;  
do not let my enemies exult over me.**

<sup>3</sup> Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;  
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

<sup>4</sup> **Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup> Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;  
for you I wait all day long.

<sup>6</sup> **Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love,  
for they have been from of old.**

<sup>7</sup> Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;  
according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness sake, O LORD!

<sup>8</sup> **Good and upright is the LORD; therefore God instructs sinners in the way.**

<sup>9</sup> The LORD leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble God's way.

<sup>10</sup> **All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,  
for those who keep God's covenant and God's decrees.**

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Lesson**

**Luke 21: 25-36**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**"Expectations"**

The Rev. Joe Genau

## Hymn 357

### *The Days are Surely Coming*

LLANGLOFFAN

1 The days are surely coming,  
says God to all the earth,  
when you will see my promise:  
salvation come to birth.  
My righteousness and justice  
will spread throughout the land  
and you will be delivered  
by my almighty hand.

2 The days are surely coming,  
says Christ, the promised one,  
when you will read my warning  
in moon and stars and sun.  
Though earth and heaven tremble,  
stand up and do not fear,  
for I am your redeemer,  
and I am drawing near.

3 The days are surely coming  
when we will know at last  
the fullness of God's presence,  
God's promise, come to pass.  
Then righteousness and justice  
will spread throughout the land  
and we will be delivered  
by God's almighty hand.

## Sharing of the Peace

## Announcements for the Community of Faith

## Call to Offering

**Anthem** *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* Praetorius; edited by Alice Parker & Robert Shaw

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming as men of old have sung.  
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.  
Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind.  
With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.  
To shew God's love aright, she bore to us a Saviour, when half-spent was the night.*

## Offering of Tithes and Gifts

## Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

## Invitation to the Lord's Table

## The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

## The Lord's Prayer

## Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

## Communion of the People

## Music at Communion

## Concerns of the Church & Prayers of the People

*Please text your prayer requests to 205-924-5080.*

*Please include your name unless you wish to remain anonymous.*

Prayer Response:            Come quickly Lord; **our hope is in you.**

## Hymn 93

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

TRURO

1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;  
behold the King of glory waits;  
the King of kings is drawing near;  
the Savior of the world is here.

2 Fling wide the portals of your heart;  
make it a temple, set apart  
from earthly use for heaven's employ,  
adorned with prayer and love and joy.

3 Redeemer, come! I open wide  
my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.  
Let me thy inner presence feel;  
thy grace and love in me reveal.

## Charge from the Steps

## Charge and Benediction

Rev. Joe Genau

## Postlude

**NOTE: Session has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, December 8**