

# WEST BERLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1876

Dr. Robert J. Gustafson, Pastor

Charles Glass, Liturgist

Julia Roll, Organist

Amy Martindale, Principal Vocalist

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**December 1, 2024**

**GATHERING TIME** (10:15 – 10:30 AM) Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6145951009>

Dial 929 436 2866 or 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 614 595 1009

**WELCOME** God is Good. **All the time.** & All the time. **God is good.**

**ADVENT LITURGY – HOPE** Susan and Scott Fisher

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: There will be signs in the heavens and distress among the nations. **P: When Christ returns in power and glory people will faint with fear.**

L: But when you see these things, lift up your heads: **P: our redemption is drawing near!**

L: Heaven and earth may pass away, **P: but the Word of God will stand unshaken.**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Jesus said, Do not let your hearts be weighed down by the sins and worries of this life, but watch and pray for the grace of God, who will save you in your time of trial. With confidence in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven. Thanks be to God. May the Lord guide your way, strengthen you in all holiness, and make you abound in love for one another and for all.

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

"Gloria Patri"

No. 9

**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.**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION & FIRST READING**

Jeremiah 33:14-16 The Righteous Branch and

the Covenant with David

<sup>14</sup>The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**YOUTH MESSAGE** Are You Ready?

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**SECOND READING** 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

<sup>9</sup> How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup> Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup> And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup> And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON** "Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love"

**HYMN** "Because He Lives" No. 256 (See attached)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS - JOYS & CONCERNS – 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.**

**CALL TO OFFERING - PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING – DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heav’nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Spirit of God be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

Give thanks to our God!

**All our thanks, all our praise.**

Before all that is, you were God. Outside...

And this is our song: **Holy, holy, holy God, our life, our mercy, our might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Save us, we pray, you beyond all. Blest is the One who comes in your name. Save us, we pray, you beyond all. Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three!**

You beyond the galaxies, ...

And so we cry, come, Holy Spirit:

**Come, Holy Spirit!**

And so the church shouts, come, Holy Spirit:

**Come, Holy Spirit!**

And so the earth pleads, come, Holy Spirit:

**Come, Holy Spirit!**

SHARING OF THE FEAST

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**HYMN** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" No. 163 (See attached)

**CHARGE, BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE**

**May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.**

**Grant you joy, perfect peace, strength in every endeavor.**

**Lift your eyes and see his face, feel his grace forever.**

**May the Lord mighty God bless and keep you forever.**

## Because He Lives

Because I live, you also will live. John 14:19

1. God sent His Son— they called Him Je - sus; He came to  
 2. How sweet to hold a new - born ba - by And feel the  
 3. And then one day I'll cross the riv - er; I'll fight life's

love, heal and for - give. He lived and died to buy my  
 pride and joy he gives; But great - er still the calm as -  
 fi - nal war with pain. And then, as death gives way to

par - don; An emp - ty grave is there to prove my Sav - ior  
 sur - ance: This child can face un - cer - tain days be - cause He  
 vic - t'ry, I'll see the lights of glo - ry - and I'll know He

*Refrain*  
 lives.  
 lives. Be - cause He lives, I can face to - mor - row; Be - cause He  
 reigns.

lives, all fear is gone. Be - cause I know He holds the

fu - ture And life is worth the liv - ing - just be - cause He lives.

# O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

163

The virgin will...give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. Isayah 7:14

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive  
 2. O come, Thou Day - spring, come and cheer Our spir - its by Thine  
 3. O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, And or - der all things  
 4. O come, De - sire of na - tions; bind All peo - ples in one

Is - ra - el, That mourns in low - ly ex - ile here  
 ad - vent here. Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,  
 far and nigh. To us the path of knowl - edge show,  
 heart and mind. Bid en - vy, strife, and quar - rels cease;

### Refrain

Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 And death's dark shad - ows put to flight. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
 And cause us in her ways to go.  
 Fill the whole world with heav - en's peace.

Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

WORDS: Latin hymn, 12th c.; tr. stanzas 1-2, John M. Neale, 1851;  
 tr. stanzas 3-4, Henry S. Coffin, 1916  
 MUSIC: Plainsong; adapt. by Thomas Helmore, 1854

VENI EMMANUEL  
 L.M. w. Ref.