

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

November 28, 2004

The First Sunday of Advent

8:30 and 11:00a.m.

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

THE PEOPLE GATHER . . .

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

“How Brightly Shines the Morning Star”

J.S. Bach

The Call To Worship

(from Romans 13)

Now is the moment for us to wake from sleep.

For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first became believers.

The night is far gone, the day is near.

Let us then put aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light...

The Prayer of Praise

*The Hymn 3

“Comfort, Comfort You My People”

*The Prayer of Confession

We’ve lost track of time, eternal God. Where did it go? We think we have time to quarrel, be envious, jealous. Those are times that are too much for us. We waste time on the dark side of our lives, rather than redeem the time, live in the light, encourage each other and build one another up. Before we know it time’s up, and we have lost it all. Forgive us our sins. . .(time for silent confession). . .

*The Choral Response

“The Lone Wild Bird”

*The Assurance of Pardon

Do you know what time it is?

Time to wake up. Time to put our life in order.

Time to rejoice in the mercy of God.

Time to remember that in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

*The Gloria Patri

p. 579 in the Hymnal

*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**

(Please exchange this ancient greeting with worshippers seated near you.
Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ.)

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD . . .

The Anthem	<i>‘Keep Your Lamps ’</i> The Sacred Dancers	Andre Thomas
The Prayer for Illumination		
The <i>Old Testament</i> Lesson: <i>Isaiah 2:1-5</i>		p. 587 in the pew Bible
The <i>Psalter</i> Lesson: <i>Psalms 122</i>		p. 536 in the pew Bible
The <i>Epistle</i> Lesson: <i>Romans 13:11-14</i>		p. 987 in the pew Bible
A Moment With the Children		
*The Hymn 11	<i>‘O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?’</i>	
The <i>Gospel</i> Lesson: <i>Matthew 24:36-44</i>		p. 859 in the pew Bible
The Sermon		“Losing Our Grip” Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

AND TO MAKE PROPER RESPONSE . . .

*The <i>Nicene Creed</i>		p. 15 in the Hymnal
The Prayers of Thanksgiving, Intercession and Dedication		
The Service of Offering		
The Gathering of Our Gifts		
The Offertory		

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER . . .

*The Hymn of Preparation 5 *"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"*

The Invitation
The Call To Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise. . .

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

. . . Who forever sing to the glory of Your name:
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Power and Might,
heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the Highest.
. . . According to His commandment:
We remember His death.
We proclaim His resurrection.
We await His coming in glory . . .

The Lord's Prayer
The Communion

p. 16 in the Hymnal

(Worshippers may take the bread and the cup as they are offered,
following their own quiet moments of preparation.)

The Prayer After Communion

We give you thanks, God of Grace, for holy promises embodied in Jesus Christ to calm our deepest fears. Our hungering hearts are filled and our thirsting spirits are satisfied by joyful anticipations given in Christ. Let the whole world know our gratitude for your kindness and join in giving you thanks. Lead us, O God of grace, to share the mercy you have shown us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

GO IN GOD' S NAME . .

*The Hymn 2 *"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*

*The Charge & Benediction *"Go Ye Now in Peace"*

N. Sleeth

*Postlude