

# DECEMBER 6, 2020 WORSHIP 8:30a CLASSIC SERVICE

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Text prayer requests: 608-304-7214



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# Welcome

Text prayer request to: 608-304-7214

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Leader: Our lists are long, even in this strange mess where we live these days. And we want to do it right, we want to be safe, but we want to be able to enjoy

8

the season. We've got work to do to put right what has gone wrong, to heal what is broken, to mend the relationships, and to prepare for the company that will come. The prophet Isaiah reminded us that there is work to be done. "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God." John the Baptist made Isaiah's message urgent: when God comes in, then healing is to be found, but we need to make the way; we need to open the door into our lives.

10 11 12

So, we light these candles as a sign that the God we worship is not far from us and that we can clear the way for that God to come and dwell with us.

Let us clear away the clutter in our relationships, make straight the path, fix up the house, and find peace. \*\*\*



13 14 15



Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus v1
UNC Hymnal F136, Words: Charles Wesley, Music. Rowland Prichard

(v1) Come, thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.
\*\*\*

16 17 18





The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who

19 20 21

will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight," John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the

people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather

22 23 24

belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." \*\*\*

25 26 27



Down by the Jordan v1-2,4

Vorship & Song Hymnal #3045, Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, Music: Ernuerten Gesangbuch

(v1) Down by the Jordan, a prophet named John was baptizing, preaching a message the people found bold and surprising. "God will forgive!
Show that you'll change
how you live!
Surely God's new day is rising!"

28 29 30

(v2) There by the river, the crowd came with great expectation: "Are you God's Chosen one, sent here to rescue our nation?"

"No!" John replied.
"He who is mightier than I
judges and offers salvation."

(v4) Here in the Church, we are baptized and filled with God's Spirit. Freed and forgiven we're welcomed with joy!

31 32 33

Can you hear it? This is God's sign!
This is how God says,
"You're mine!"
Let's take the good news
and share it!
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34 35 36





COMMISSIONING OF STEPHEN LEADERS

Melissa de Boer Becky Barnes

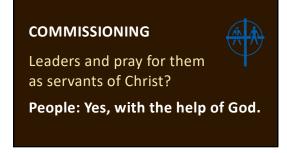
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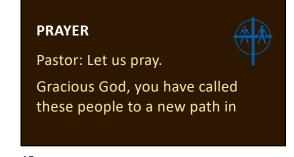




40 41 42







43 44 45

## **PRAYER**

caring ministry. You have gifted and empowered them for this task. Grant them joy in their service and a spirit of

П

47

50

#### **PRAYER**

bold trust in you, that their ministry may stir us to greater caring and more fruitful service. Help us all to be both willing

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## **PRAYER**

servants and thankful recipients of this ministry, so that your name may be glorified, your people live in peace, and

48

#### **PRAYER**

46

49

your good and gracious will be done, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

**BLESSING** 

Pastor: May the Lord of the church fill you with the Holy Spirit and guide, bless, and keep you, so that you may be faithful in the

**BLESSING** 

ministry to which you have been called, gifted, trained, and sent.

People: Amen.

51

#### **BLESSING**

Pastor: As our new Stephen
Leaders go forth to minister,
let us thank God for the love and
the generosity that inspired their

**BLESSING** 

response to God's call, and let us pray for the success of this caring ministry.

**BLESSING** 

People: Go in peace, and serve the Lord. Amen.



52 53 54





People: Into the dark depths of our fear and anguish, you, O Lord, reach out to us. We need your guidance this day, for we have found it far too easy to stray into

55 56 57

selfish pathways. We seek first our own comfort; we gather our toys and trinkets and proclaim that all is right with the world, yet our hearts feel strangely discomforted. Guide us and gather us, Lord. Teach us again to be people of peace and hope. Help us to cast off the mantle of greed and hatred. Forgive us for the many times when we have ignored the cries of those in need; when we have turned our backs on opportunities to help others. Forgive us, Lord. Touch our hearts

58 59 60

and bring your bright light of salvation to them that we might turn again to you and in your love may be part of ministries of peace and justice. Help us again to hear

the voice of one who cries in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord. Make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

(silent confessions)

Leader: God's forgiving love has been poured upon each one of us. Hear the good news! You are healed and forgiven!

People: Amen.

\*\*\*

61 62 63





Emmanuel, Emmanuel

UMC Red Hymnal #204, Words & Music: Bob McGee

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,

His name is called Emmanuel.

God with us, Revealed in us,

His name is called Emmanuel.

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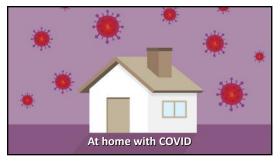
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Sermon Home Improvement Rev. Lourdes Magalhaes



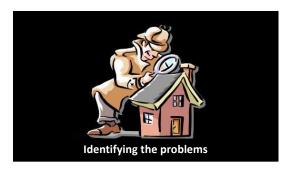
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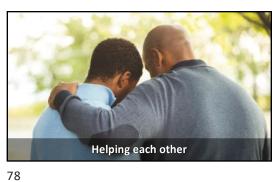




73 74 75







76 77







79 80 81

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (v1,5-6)
UMC Red Hymnal page 211, Text: Henry Sloane Coffin, Music: 15th cent. French

(v1) O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear. (r) Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel. (v5) O come, thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heavenly home.

82 83 84

The captives from their prison free, And conquer death's deep misery.

(r) Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel. (v6) O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer Our spirits by thy justice here;

85 86 87

Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight. (r) Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel. \*\*\*



88 89 90





The 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.

91 92 93

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who
trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.

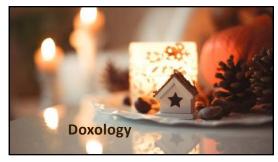
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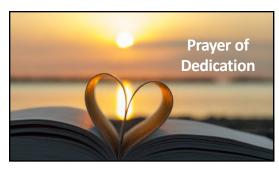
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Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia!

Praise God, the source
of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ,
whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia!



100 101 102







103 104 105







106 107 108



Let There Be Peace on Earth
UMC Red Hymnal, #431, Text & Music: Sy Miller & Jill Jackson

(v1) Let there be peace on earth, And let it begin with me; Let there be peace on earth, The peace that was meant to be. With God our creator, Children all are we. Let us walk with each other In perfect harmony.

109 110 111

Let peace begin with me; Let this be the moment now. With every step I take, Let this be my solemn vow; To take each moment
And live each moment
In peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.

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112 113 114







115 116 117