

GIRDWOOD CHAPEL UMC

December 4, 2022

Order of Sunday Worship

(bold text indicates congregational responses; * indicates please stand as able)

Welcome

*Call to Worship & Advent Wreath Lighting (by Laura Reijns)

On that day,

We will look back at the histories that make us who we are,
And we will take an honest account of ourselves.

And a shoot will grow.

We will ask for forgiveness for the things we have not gotten right.
And learn how to be better as we move forward.

And a shoot will grow.

We will acknowledge where we are growing
And how that might look differently than what we expected.

And a shoot will grow.

Equity, righteousness and peace are all noble to strive for.
Traits that take time and practice and require us to work on ourselves.

And a shoot will grow.

Because what we are called to build 'on that day' is what we are called to today.
Distant goals take present action.

And a shoot will grow.

Today we light the second candle of Advent. The candle of peace. And we water the shoots that are growing. We tend to the tension between our messy past and the future we want to cultivate.

*Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel v. 1-4

Music and lyrics are also on the screen

Communal Prayer (Fr. Henri Nouwen)

Lord Jesus,

**Master of both the light and the darkness,
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.**

**We who have so much to do
seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.**

**We who are anxious over many things
look forward to your coming among us.**

**We who are blessed in so many ways
long for the complete joy of your kingdom.**

**We whose hearts are heavy
seek the joy of your presence.**

**We are your people,
walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.**

To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!"

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10 and Matthew 3:1-6

Response: *For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God around us, for the Word of God within us, we say: **Thanks be to God.***

Sermon

Hymn: “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” (Hymnal #216 | Nathan Drake, Reawaken Hymns)

Weekly Connection Points

- Wednesdays: Advent for the whole family, 6:15 ~ 7:15, with optional discussion after
- Thursdays: Walk, Talk, Pray, 10am (starting in our parking lot)
- Our Food Pantry days and times: First Sundays 2 - 4pm; 2nd and 4th Wednesdays

Coming up!

- Christmas Eve Pageant needs a coordinator! We have a no-rehearsal script but still need a coordinator!
- Next Sunday is Brunch Church!

Invitation to Generosity

To give go to www.girdwoodchapel.com/give or scan the code
Mail your offering to PO Box 1068



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Transition time off of Facebook

Community Prayers

Leader: God in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer

Pastoral Prayer & 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. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our tresspasses, 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.

Holy Communion -- pp. 15-16 in the *Hymnal*

You are invited and welcome to participate in communion with us. We believe that this is God’s table and is open to all.

Music: “Emmanuel You’re One of Us” (Rend Collective)

Benediction: “On Eagles Wings”

And God will raise us up
On eagles’ wings
Bear us on the breath of dawn
Make us to shine like the sun
And hold us, in the palm, of God’s hand