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## PRELUDE

## OPENING PRAYER

## LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

### HYMN “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

UMH# 211 (3 & 4)

3 O come, O come, great Lord of might,  
who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times did give the law  
in cloud and majesty and awe. Refrain.  
Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel, Shall Come  
to thee , O Israel. .

4 O come, O Branch of Jesse's stem,  
unto your own and rescue them!  
From depths of hell your people save,  
and give them victory o'er the grave.  
Refrain

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HYMN “Love Is Come”

TFWS# 3059

1. Love has come a light in the dark-  
ness! Love explodes in the Bethle-  
hem skies See all heaven has come  
to proclaim it Hear how their song of  
joy arises Love! Love! Born unto you  
a Savior Love! Love! Glory to God  
on high

2. Love is born come share in  
the wonder Love is God now  
asleep in the hay See the glow  
in the eyes of His mother  
What is the name her heart is  
saying? Love! Love! Love is  
the name she whispers Love!  
Love! Jesus Immanuel

3. Love has come He never will  
leave us Love is life everlasting  
and free Love is Jesus within and  
among us Love is the peace our  
hearts are seeking Love! Love!  
Love is the gift of Christmas  
Love! Love! Praise to You God  
on high

## SPECIAL MUSIC



Use your phone camera to scan  
this QR code to use our Vanco  
app to give and to communicate  
with our Ramsey Family  
**INVITE CODE: 7HEAYP**



## SCRIPTURE

### Luke 3:1-6 (NRSV)

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler<sup>[a]</sup> of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler<sup>[b]</sup> of the region of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler<sup>[c]</sup> of Abilene,<sup>2</sup> during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.<sup>3</sup> He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,<sup>4</sup> as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

<sup>5</sup> Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth;  
<sup>6</sup> and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

### Luke 3:1-6 (NLT)

It was now the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius, the Roman emperor. Pontius Pilate was governor over Judea; Herod Antipas was ruler<sup>[a]</sup> over Galilee; his brother Philip was ruler<sup>[b]</sup> over Iturea and Traconitis; Lysanias was ruler over Abilene.<sup>2</sup> Annas and Caiaphas were the high priests. At this time a message from God came to John son of Zechariah, who was living in the wilderness.<sup>3</sup> Then John went from place to place on both sides of the Jordan River, preaching that people should be baptized to show that they had repented of their sins and turned to God to be forgiven.<sup>4</sup> Isaiah had spoken of John when he said, "He is a voice shouting in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the LORD's coming! Clear the road for him!

<sup>5</sup> The valleys will be filled, and the mountains and hills made level. The curves will be straightened, and the rough places made smooth.<sup>6</sup> And then all people will see the salvation sent from God.'"

## SERMON

### "Salvation Has Come"

*Rev. Claudia Stallings*

## PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, which 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 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, for  
ever.  
Amen.

## CONSECRATING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

### DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Him all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## HOLY COMMUNION

### HYMN

*"God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"*

TFWS# 3052

1 God rest you merry, gentlemen,  
let nothing you dismay,  
for Jesus Christ our Savior  
was born upon this day,  
to save us all from Satan's power  
when we were gone astray.

Refrain:

O tidings of comfort and joy, com-  
fort and joy;  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

2 In Bethlehem in Judah  
this blessed babe was born,  
and laid within a manger  
upon this blessed morn:  
for which his mother Mary  
did nothing take in scorn.  
[Refrain]

3 From God our heavenly Fa-  
ther  
a blessed angel came,  
and unto certain shepherds  
brought tidings of the same,  
how that in Bethlehem was born  
the Son of God by name.  
[Refrain]

4 The shepherds at those  
tidings  
rejoiced much in mind,  
and left their flocks a-feeding  
in tempest, storm, and wind,  
and went to Bethlehem  
straightway,  
the blessed babe to find.  
[Refrain]

5 Now to the Lord sing  
praises,  
all you within this place,  
and with true love and broth-  
erhood  
each other now embrace;  
this holy tide of Christmas  
all others doth deface.  
[Refrain]

## DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

### Prayer Requests

Amy Salley  
Brittany Johnson  
Darlene Thomas  
David Pittman  
Debbie Mullins  
Donna Campbell  
Elnora Holmes  
Emily Bucknam

Erica  
Frances Nunnally  
Frances Owen  
Iris Ward  
Jimmie Early  
Joanne Jenkins  
Lois Crafton

Matt Amason  
Maureen  
Mitch Early  
Nancy Hulon  
Peggy Burch

Rev. Tom Brown  
Sandy Gentry  
Sara Katherine Reid  
Shirley Wiegand

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **CHURCH ADVENT STUDY**

“Awaiting the Already: An Advent Journey Through the Gospels”

December 5, 12 & 19 at 9:00am in the

Ramsey Sanctuary. If you would like a participant book, please contact the church office

at 804-276-4628 or [admin@ramseymemorial.org](mailto:admin@ramseymemorial.org)

- **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE**

Friday, December 24

Church Sanctuary

Spanish at 5:30pm

English at 7:30pm

Come and bring a friend or family member.

- **LIVING NATIVITY**

It's that time of year!

Ramsey will be presenting both Bethlehem and Living Nativity from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

(on the following nights) :

**Wednesday, December 22nd (Bethlehem and nativity)**

**Thursday, December 23rd (Bethlehem and nativity)**

**Friday, December 24th (nativity only)**

Make the Living Nativity part of your Christmas celebration this year and please invite others to join you!

\*Lots of help is needed with the Bethlehem and Living Nativity so anyone who is

interested please contact Tammy Howe ([2razoo@gmail.com](mailto:2razoo@gmail.com)) or Debbie Garrett ([dsgarrett08@comcast.net](mailto:dsgarrett08@comcast.net))

- Ramsey Church is considering changing our current leadership structure by implementing the Simplified Accountable Structure (SAS) instead. If you want further information about SAS, please contact Pastora Norma or Pastor Claudia. As a part of our discernment process, we ask you to join us in praying for God's guidance using the prayer below:

*Almighty God,*

*Thank You for calling us into new and exciting things. Thank You for knowing us so intimately that You know all our fears. We ask for your guidance as we discern the best leadership structure for Ramsey Church. As You call us to step out in courage, please continue to remind us that You are with us, You never leave us, and You have equipped us. Help us trust that, as we obey You, You will guide our next steps of faith.*

*In Jesus' Name, Amen.*