INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & PARDON

Merciful God, We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

COMMUNION LITURGY & RECEIVING OF THE ELEMENTS

ANTHEM (DURING COMMUNION) COMFORT, COMFORT NOW MY PEOPLE FROM LOUIS BOURGEOIS; ARR. BY BRENDA AUSTIN

***HYMN OF INVITATION**

BECAUSE HE LIVES UMH #364, v. 1 Words By Gloria & William J Gaither Music By William J Gaither Used by Permission. CCLI License #1203752

1.God sent his Son, they called him Jesus; he came to love, heal, and forgive; he lived and died to buy my pardon, an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives. <u>Refrain</u>: Because he lives, I can face tomorrow; because he lives, all fear is gone; because I know he holds the future, and life is worth the living just because he lives.

***BENEDICTION**

*SENDING FORTH ON EAGLE'S WINGS #143, UMH Words by Michael Joncas Music byMichael Joncas, Harm, by Carlton R. Young Used by Permission. CCLI License #1203752 1. And God will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand.

POSTLUDE PREPARE THE WAY BY BEN LOGAN

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"The Generosity of God's Love Through the Prophets" Micah 5:2-4, Isaiah 7:14

& Isaiah 11:1-6;12

December 3, 2023 First Sunday of Advent Worship Service with Communion Sanctuary & Online 10:00 AM



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 406 SHIRLEY ST • DERIDDER, LA 70634 • 337.463.4491 P.O. BOX 965 DERIDDER, LA 70634 WWW. FUMCDERIDDER.ORG • OFFICE@FUMCDERIDDER.ORG Central to DeRidder, Centered in Christ Our Mission is to Grow and Serve in Christ

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE O COME, O COME EMMANUEL Old Latin Hymn Translated by John Mason Neale Welcome Home!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE By Graham Kendrick

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Isaiah 60:2-3; See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Leader: See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come

to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Congregation: We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope. May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation. O come, O come, Emanuel.

> *Hymn of Praise HAIL TO THE LORD'S APPOINTED UMH #203, v, 1, 2 & 3 Words by James Montgomery Alt Music Adapted by W H Monk Used by Permission. CCLI License #1203752

1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son! Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun! He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free; to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

2.He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong; to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong; to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light, whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.

3.He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth; love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth. Before him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go, and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SHARING OF OUR JOYS & CONCERNS

CALL TO PRAYER JESUS, JOY OF OUR DESIRING UMH #644 WORDS BY MARTIN JANUS MUSIC BY JOHANN SCHOP USED BY PERMISSION. CCLI LICENSE #1203752

1.Jesus, joy of our desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright; drawn by thee, our souls aspiring soar to uncreated light. Word of God, our flesh that fashioned, with the fire of life impassioned, striving still to truth unknown, soaring, dying round thy throne.

2. Through the way where hope is guiding, hark, what peaceful music rings; where the flock, in thee confiding, drink of joy from deathless springs. Theirs is beauty's fairest pleasure; theirs is wisdom's holiest treasure. Thou dost ever lead thine own in the love of joys unknown.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING PRAYER & RETURN OF GOD'S TITHES & GIFTS

***DOXOLOGY** *PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW*

#94 WORDS BY THOMAS KEN MUSIC FROM *GEISTLICHE KIRCHENGESANGE* ARR, BY RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS USED BY PERMISSION. CCLI LICENSE #1203752

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hymn of Faith O Come, O Come, Emmanuel UMH #211, v 1, 2 & 4 Words Translated by Henry Sloan Coffin & Laurence Hull Stookey Music Arr by Thomas Helmore Used by Permission. CCLI License #1203752

1.O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

<u>Refrain</u>: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. 2.0 come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh; to us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go. [<u>Refrain</u>] 4.0 come, thou Root of Jesse's tree, an ensign of thy people be; before thee rulers silent fall; all peoples on thy mercy call. [<u>Refrain</u>]

SCRIPTURE READING

Micah 5:2-4, Isaiah 7:14 & Isaiah 11:1-6;12 **SERMON** "THE GENEROSITY OF GOD'S LOVE THROUGH THE PROPHETS" REV. LARAINE WAUGHTAL