

The Lord's Day

December 9, 2007

“Second Sunday of Advent”

Prelude

Call to Worship:

Psalm 24:7-10

Leader: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in!

People: Who is this King of glory?

Leader: The LORD, strong and mighty,
The LORD, mighty in battle!

People: Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in!

Leader: Who is this King of glory?

ALL: The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory!

Prayer for God's Blessing

◆**Hymn of Adoration:** *“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!”*
Trinity Hymnal #198

Call to Confession:

Isaiah 40:3

*A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.”*

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon:

Isaiah 40:1-2

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned.

◆**Hymn of Praise:** *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*
Trinity Hymnal #194

Pastoral Prayer

◆Our Profession of Faith

— Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and was made human. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried. The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and to life in the world to come. Amen.

Worship with Tithes and Offerings

—Emily Doran

Old Testament: Isaiah 11:1-10

New Testament: Romans 15:4-13

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Sermon: *“The Hope-Inspiring King”*

◆**Hymn of Response:** *“Joy to the World! The Lord is Come”*
Trinity Hymnal #195

◆Prayer of Benediction

◆**Doxology:** *“Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow”*
Trinity Hymnal #731

Postlude

Greeter this week: *Belinda Doll*
Greeter next week: *Mike Frank*
Pianists: *Marie Stults & Emily Doran*
Flowers for December: *VandenBerg family*
Church set-up-take-down responsibilities for December:
Doran family

☐ **Sunday School...** today is the last Sunday this year for Sunday School. Many thanks to Paul McDonald and Ray Iavasile for their teaching and service in this excellent study on the Beatitudes! I know that many have been encouraged and strengthened in their Christian walk because of this study. Thank you to all the other teachers who've also served so faithfully.

☐ **Session Meeting...** will be held tomorrow evening, 6:30pm at Chuck Krueger's office in Ann Arbor. If you are interested in attending, please see Pastor Doll or one of the elders.

☐ **Wednesday Evening Bible Study** meets from 7-9pm at the Doran's home. Pastor Doll is leading the study on *Transforming Grace: Living Confidently in God's Unfailing Love*, by Jerry Bridges. This week's lesson is Chapter 8, "Holiness: A Gift of God's Grace."

☐ **Christmas Luncheon...** A Christmas luncheon will be held for the women of our church on Saturday, December 15 at Ciao Amici's on Main Street in Brighton. Lunch will be provided for all, and you are encouraged to bring a friend; this is a wonderful opportunity for outreach. Childcare will also be provided. Please RSVP by December 12 to Nancy Doran at 810-229-0462.

☐ **Refreshment Table...** The church will be providing refreshments for the next three weeks because of the Christmas holiday. To all of you who've faithfully brought refreshments, we thank you and give you a reprieve until the new year!

☐ **2008 OPC Winter Youth Retreat "All-Nighter"...** will be held at the downtown YMCA in Grand Rapids on January 25-26 for 7th-12th grade students and interested parents. Our speaker will be Paul Green, executive director of Hope for Chattanooga. The YMCA facility includes many amenities, including two swimming pools, a water slide, two climbing walls, two full basketball courts, squash and racquetball courts and other exercise equipment. Cost of the retreat will be \$25, so mark your calendar! Brochures will be available soon. Hope to see you there!

☐ **Biblical Nouthetic Counseling Class...** The Biblical Counseling Center of SE Michigan has scheduled its annual Spring Basic Training class in Biblical (Nouthetic) Counseling. The class is conducted in three modules, each of which meets all day on Friday (9am-9pm) and half day on Saturday (8:30am-Noon), at Plymouth Baptist Church in Plymouth. Attendance at all three modules is necessary to complete the basic course. Dates are February 15-16, March 14-15, and April 18-19, 2008. Complete information is available at: www.bcceastmi.com.

Upcoming Events

Mon, December 10 – Session Mtg, 6:30pm, Ann Arbor (Chuck's office)
Wed, December 12 – Bible Study at Doran's, 7-9pm
Sat, December 15 – Ladies' Christmas Luncheon, 12pm, Ciao Amici's
Sat, January 19 – Men's Prayer Breakfast, 8:30-10am
Fri-Sat, January 25-26 – 2008 OPC Winter Youth Retreat "All-Nighter"

Sermon Notes: