



**LEADER**

## **SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP**

**December 10, 2023**

**2nd Sunday of Advent**

9:30 a.m.

Liturgist: Nob Ichishita

*Welcome!*

*We're glad you are here to worship with us,  
whether in-person or virtually on Zoom or YouTube.*

# **Gathering the People of God**

## **WELCOME**

Pastor Eric O. Ledermann

*Please register your attendance with your mobile device by scanning the QR code to the right or by going to [www.upctempe.org/fellowship](http://www.upctempe.org/fellowship), and completing the form.*



The light of Christ be with you!

⌘ **And also with you!**

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

(480) 256-8216

*Prayers may be texted to the above number,  
or call and leave a message.*

## **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

## **CENTERING TIME & LIGHTING OF CANDLES**

*"Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"*

Ted Gibson,

BY LOUIS BOURGEOIS

*Pianist*

*We use this time to center our spirits, bring our attention to God within our breath, and remember that we are connected to all things through the Body of Christ.*

*Candles remind us of the light of God's love that exists within each human being and every created thing. The candles on the communion table represent the light of community. The single candle near the pulpit is the paschal candle, the light of Christ that shines on and in the world, and the darkness cannot overcome it.*

## **ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING<sup>2</sup>**

We light the first candle of the new year  
for all God's people,  
struggling to be bearers of hope  
in a troubled world.

⌘ **God, as we wait for your promise,  
give light, give *hope*.**

We light the second candle for all God's prophets,  
confronting justice and restoring the dream  
of a world of freedom and peace.

⌘ **God, as we wait for your promise,  
give light, give *peace*.**

## **\*PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

⌘ **And also with you.**

## **\*HYMN**

*"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"*

(vv. 1, 2, 6, 7)

#88

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>1</sup>**

⌘ **Faithful God,  
we confess that we too often do not lead  
lives of holiness.  
We suffer from impatience, apathy, and greed;  
we have not been at peace.  
Hear our prayers as we seek to repent  
from these offenses  
and turn to you in love.  
Forgive our iniquity and pardon our sins,  
that we may walk in righteousness  
to the glory of your name.  
Hear our prayers, O God,  
and continue your redemption of our  
hearts and minds.**

*Moment for silent reflection and confession.*

## **ASSURANCE OF GRACE<sup>1</sup>**

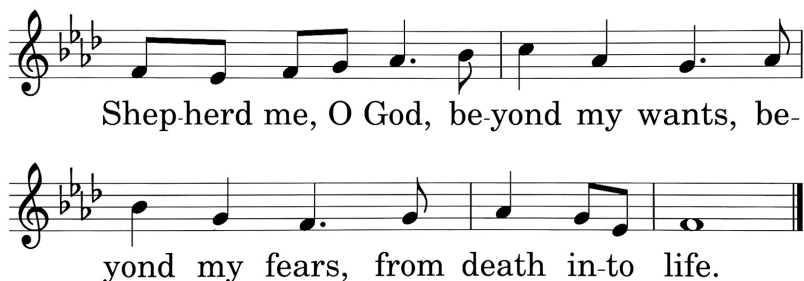
Siblings in Christ,  
by the mercy of God's love,  
trust in God's forgiveness.

‡ Salvation is at hand  
for all who seek God's peace.

**\*RESPONSE TO GRACE**

*"Shepherd Me, O God"*  
(Refrain)

#473



Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, be-  
yond my fears, from death in-to life.

## Listening for God's Word

### MOMENT JUST FOR THE CHILDREN

Chris Casanova

*Children are always welcome in worship. We know they'll make some noise during the service—we understand and welcome their participation in their own way.*

*Parents, if needed, at any time during the service you may take your children into the narthex to stretch their legs or to our special children's corner in the rear of the sanctuary. We do offer childcare upon request—please speak to the Elder in Charge in the Narthex.*

### ANTHEM

*"Advent Fanfare"*  
LLOYD LARSON

Chancel Choir

The Lord is coming soon.  
Prepare the way with joyful alleluias.  
He comes the vine to prune.  
Declare the day with joyful alleluias.

Make straight the crooked way,  
let every mountain be made low,  
the rugged places plain  
for Christ, the Lord, is coming!  
Sing allelu, sing alleluia!

Behold the eastern sky!  
Prepare the way with joyful alleluias.  
Redemption draweth nigh.  
Declare the day with joyful alleluias.

He comes with truth and grace,  
His reign shall be forever more!  
Set free your voice of praise

for Christ, the Lord, is coming!  
Sing allelu, sing alleluia!

## PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING<sup>1</sup>

### SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 40.1-11  
Mark 1.1-8

OT pg. 667  
NT pg. 34

Word of wisdom,  
word of grace.  
⌘ **Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

Pastor Eric O. Ledermann

*“Love is Love is Love”*  
Part 2

# Responding to God’s Word

### \*RESPONSE

*“Wait for The Lord”*  
(Psalm 27)

#90

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line of text. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

### MINUTE FOR MISSION

*“Rise and Shine Bread”*

Linda Ritland

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Send prayer requests by texting or leaving a message at (480) 256-8216.

### PRAYER OF JESUS (Modern)

⌘ **Our Creator in Heaven,**  
**blessed be your name.**  
**Your kin-dom come, your will be done,**  
**on earth as it is in heaven.**  
**Give us today our daily bread.**  
**Forgive us our sins,**  
**as we forgive those who sin against us.**  
**Keep us from temptation,**

and deliver us from evil.  
For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory,  
are yours now and forever. Amen.

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING<sup>1</sup>**

*Offerings may be placed in the offering plate as it is passed,  
mailed or dropped off to the church office,  
or given through our website at [www.upctempe.org/giving](http://www.upctempe.org/giving).*

Offerings may be dropped into the offering plate, mailed to or dropped off at the church office, or given through our website at [www.upctempe.org/donate](http://www.upctempe.org/donate) (scan QR code).

**OFFERTORY**

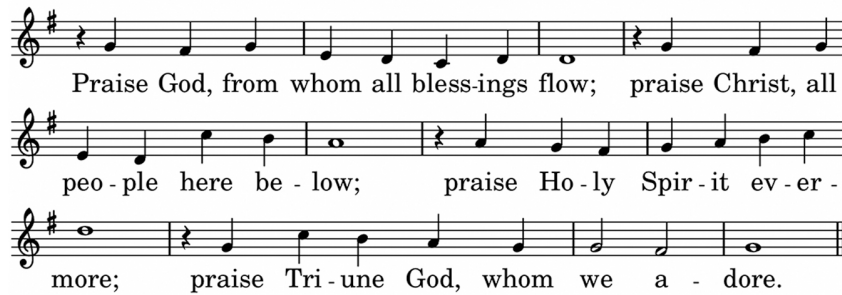
*“On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry”*  
ARR. MICHAEL BURKHARDT

Jon Sywassink,  
*Organist*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

*“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”*

#608



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all  
peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -  
more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION<sup>1</sup>**

## Sent Out in Jesus' Name

**INVITATION TO COMMUNITY**

**\*HYMN**

*“Blest Be the God of Israel ”*  
(SONG OF ZECHARIAH)

#109

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**\*POSTLUDE**

*“Hark, the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes”*  
ARR. PAUL MANZ

Jon Sywassink,  
*Organist*

*The postlude is a time of reflection on how God has been  
present to us during worship,  
and is present to us in our daily lives.*

*Remember you are the light of the world!  
Let your light shine!*

**Sign up for our Weekly Update email at**  
[www.upctempe.org/email](http://www.upctempe.org/email)

## **Today's Worship Leaders**

Elder in Charge	Sue Schnebel
Ushers	Sue Schnebel & Team
Worship Techs	Jim Niemann, Sada Reed
Trustee on Duty	Cheri Hardy
Deacon of the Month	Cathy Richardson
Sanctuary Readiness	Larry Seubert

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<sup>1</sup>Adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2014), 7ff.

## **REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**DEACON HONORARY PLANT:** *Given this day by Celia Whitehead in memory of her mother, Symia Whitehead.*

**MEMORIAL BOOK:** *To the Glory of God and in remembrance of Lucinda Uhlig Boerner, a memorial perpetuated in Handbells by John & Florence McBrayer, 1987.*

**The World:** Prayers for peace around the world, especially in places of war, famine, strife.

**All elected leaders:** The President of the United States, members of the U.S. Congress and Senate, governors, county officials, mayors, and city council members, that they may all work toward peace for our cities, nation, and world.

**Continued Prayers:** Dennis Gilliland; Betsy Youngs; Carl and Barbara Smith; Jim Phillips; Chet Henry's brother; Beckie Burke; Diane Watkins; Sue Coleman's nephew-in-law, Carl and her friend, Jean; Louisa and Lyle Starkey, and Rob Starkey; Joni Jacobs; Catherine May's niece, Kaycee.

**Homebound:** Helen Alderson, Joanna Fancher

**Birthdays this coming week:** Wendy Sevlie, Sindy Ledermann, Clarissa Knorr, Andrew Betts

*If your birthday is missing, please contact the church office  
to let us know the date so we can celebrate with you!*

**Elders:** Paul Green, Catherine May, Joan Grey

**Deacons:** Nan Beams, Patty Griffiths, Cathy Richardson, Jey Young

**Trustees:** Helen Griffin, Pete Godfrey, Chris Trella

**Presbytery:** Gloria Christi, Paradise Valley, their pastor, Rev. Erika von Haaren.

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## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**NO CLASSES DURING CHRISTMAS SEASON (Dec. 24 and 31):** As we welcome the presence of Christ into our lives once again, there will be no Sunday School the morning of Christmas Eve and the following Sunday (Dec. 31st). *Classes will resume on Jan. 7th.*

**CHILDREN'S BIBLE TIME (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Rm 2):** Bible Time explores lessons to be learned from Old and New Testament scriptures through music, hands-on activities, and stories. All children grades K-4 are welcome.

**YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Youth Room):** We have a great group of youth in grades 6-12 who are excited for our upcoming events. Be on the lookout for monthly service projects as part of our regular Sunday fellowship. All middle schoolers (6th-8th grades) and high schoolers (9th-10th grades) are invited to join us on Sunday mornings after worship at 11 am! If you have questions or would like more info, contact Ted Gibson, Christian Education director, at [tedgibson@upctempe.org](mailto:tedgibson@upctempe.org).

**ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Sanctuary):**

- **Dec 3 - 17** - "Awe" - An Advent Series led by Larry Gardner
- **Dec 24, 31** - No classes during Christmas season (resume Jan. 7).

**LECTIO DIVINA BIBLE STUDY (Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m., Zoom):** Join us as we read, reflect upon, and study the scripture readings for each upcoming Sunday in the Revised Common Lectionary. With Advent we begin a new liturgical year – Year B of the Revised Common Lectionary. A list is available for download: List Form ([www.upctempe.org/rcl](http://www.upctempe.org/rcl)).

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## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

*If you have an announcement for our weekly emails and bulletin, submit it to the church office no later than Wednesday of each week. Send it to [upc@upctempe.org](mailto:upc@upctempe.org).*

*Note: All Zoom meetings may be accessed online via the links provided, or by calling (602) 753-0140 and entering the Meeting ID (the numbers in the weblinks below) and the password, "139." Long distance rates may apply.*

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Sunday, Dec. 24, 6:00 p.m.

(Sanctuary, Zoom, YouTube)

Invite your neighbors, friends, and family to join us on Christmas Eve to give thanks for the blessings we have in Jesus, joining together for an evening of lessons, carols, communion, and fellowship.

**DEACON POINSETTIA ORDERS:** The Deacons will have a table on the patio after worship to accept your donation of \$12.00 for a poinsettia or plant in honor of or in memory of loved ones and/or for some “special” to you. Orders will be taken on December 3rd, 10th and 17th. Your plant will be placed in the sanctuary for Christmas Eve Sunday service at 9:30 a.m. You may also use the online giving button from [upctempe.org](http://upctempe.org), contact Nancy Martin at (480) 241-9296, or leave a check at the church office payable to UPC Deacons with “Poinsettia” written in the memo line. The deacons are grateful for your support and we pray that you have a blessed Christmas.

**ANGEL TREE (return gifts by Dec. 10):** PW is delighted to partner with Tempe Elementary School District to provide holiday gifts to make 50 children’s wishes come true through the generosity of the UPC congregation. Wrapped gifts must be received by Dec. 10th.

**CHRISTMAS HYMN SING (Sunday, Dec. 31, 9:30 a.m., Sanctuary, Zoom, YouTube):** The Christmas Season begins on Dec. 25th and ends on Jan. 6th (the Day of Epiphany). As we journey through Advent, mark your calendars for the Sunday following Christmas Day when we’ll gather to sing Christmas carols, delight in story, and share in prayers for our world. *We will invite those present in-person or on Zoom to make hymn suggestions.*

**DINNER FOR EIGHT (starting in January):** Would you like to get better acquainted with others from UPC? Join the next group of DINNER FOR EIGHT which will begin in January of 2024. What is Dinner For Eight? Groups of 6, 7, or 8 people take turns hosting a gathering once a month for four months for a meal and conversation. The emphasis is on fun and friendship, so you don’t have to be a great cook to participate! During a four-month period you will host only once, and will be a guest on three occasions. When it is your turn to host, you decide when and where. Visit the sign up table in the courtyard after worship, or contact Margaret Branson at (224) 406-1507 or [mlherbst90@gmail.com](mailto:mlherbst90@gmail.com).

**RISE SHINE BREAD:** We have delivered 4,874 mini-loaves and 3,925 full-sized loaves of bread to those in need. Thanks to the UPC bakers and please invite your friends to become a baker. Please contact Andrea White at [info@riseshinebread.org](mailto:info@riseshinebread.org) or (480) 580-3021. Here is a link to a video you can view! <https://youtu.be/Go5llLlTuw>.

**SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP PAD ([www.upctempe.org/fellowship](http://www.upctempe.org/fellowship), or scan the QR code):**

If you are attending worship either on Zoom or YouTube, remember to complete the online Fellowship Pad and include your prayer requests. Also, please include any new contact info (phone, email, etc.) and check the "New contact info" box. ***If your contact info has not changed, you do not need to include your address or phone number.***





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## UPC WEEKLY CALENDAR

Find Zoom links and calendar updates at  
[www.upctempe.org/events](http://www.upctempe.org/events).

Subscribe to the Weekly Update for Zoom links:  
[www.upctempe.org/email](http://www.upctempe.org/email)

### Sun., Dec 10

*Second Sunday of Advent*

9:30 am	Worship Service (S, Z, YouTube)
11:00 am	Adult Christian Education - ACE (S)
11:00 am	Children's Bible Time (Rm 3)
11:00 am	Youth Fellowship (Rm 9)

### Mon., Dec 11

6:30 pm	CIO Committee (ZP)
8:30 pm	AA Meeting (Rm 7)

### Tue., Dec 12

7:00 pm	Finance Committee (ZU)
7:00 pm	Worship Committee (ZP)

### Wed., Dec 13

9:00 am	Lectio Divina Bible Study (ZU)
3:45 pm	Worship Planning Team (ZU)
5:15 pm-6:15 pm	Wednesday Church Dinner (FH, K)
6:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice (S)
7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Practice (S)

### Thu., Dec 14

8:00 am	TOPS (MR, Rm 7)
7:00 pm	MSJP Committee (ZU)

### Fri., Dec 15

3:00 pm	I-HELP (FH, K) Meal:UPC
8:30 pm	A.A. Meeting (Rm 7)

### Sat., Dec 16

10:00 am	Saager-Kolmos Memorial (S, FH, K)
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### Sun., Dec 17

*Third Sunday of Advent*

*PC(USA) Christmas Joy Offering*

9:30 am	Worship Service (S, Z, YouTube)
11:00 am	Adult Christian Education - ACE (S)
11:00 am	Children's Bible Time (Rm 3)
11:00 am	Youth Fellowship (Rm 9)
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Chancel Choir Christmas Caroling

Location/Room References:

(CH)-Choir Room (CR)-Conference Room/Office (COR/Rm7)-Community Room  
(FH)-Fellowship Hall (MG) Memorial Garden (HSR)-High School Room  
(MSR)-Middle School Room (K)-Fellowship Hall Kitchen  
(L)-Lounge (MR)-Meeting Room (PO)-Pastor's Office

(Rm#)-Room Number Indicated (S)-Sanctuary  
(Z)-On Zoom (See Weekly Update or UPC Calendar for links)



***Open and Affirming to All, Glorifying God, Growing in Love***

139 E. Alameda Dr. • Tempe, AZ 85282 • 480.966.6267

www.upctempe.org • e-mail: upc@upctempe.org

**Office Hours: Tue-Fri, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

Ministers	All Members
Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Ledermann
Clerk of Session	Brigitta Kuiper
Director of Music & Christian Education	Ted Gibson
Organist	Jon Sywassink
Administrative Assistant	Lori Saager
Treasurer/Bookkeeper	Andrea White
Attendance Secretaries	Sharlan Pierce, Jeanette Miller
Custodian	Carrie Miter

**Pastor's Office Hours:**

*Available by appointment Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays  
Contact the church office or the pastor to schedule,  
or go to [www.upctempe.org/pastorschedule](http://www.upctempe.org/pastorschedule).*