



## SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

December 8, 2024

2nd Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m.

Liturgist: Nancy Franz

*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

Reverend Ken Moe

- **ONLINE FELLOWSHIP PAD:** Please let us know you are here by scanning the QR code in the worship bulletin or on your screen if you are at home and completing the form. The QR code is also in the top-right corner of your screen. You can also get to the online fellowship pad by going to [www.upctempe.org/fellowship](http://www.upctempe.org/fellowship).
- **PAPER FELLOWSHIP PAD:** If you prefer to use the fellowship pads in the pews, please tear out the sheet and place it on the pew when you leave for the ushers to pick up.
- **SOCIAL MEDIA:** If you are on any social media, you are encouraged to check in at UPC this morning. Let others know that you are here in hopes that they might receive that as an invitation to become a part of our faith community and be encouraged in their faith journeys.
- **MUTE PHONES:** After checking in, please make sure your phone is muted so as not to disturb those around you from the presence of God with us.



The love of God 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

*"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*  
BY ROWLAND HUGH PRICHARD

Ted Gibson,  
*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

The focus of the second Sunday in Advent is peace. In addition to the candle of hope, we now light the second candle this day for all of God's people who promote peace on earth and for all who are living amidst war and violence. O God, as we wait for the promised day when the wolf shall lie down with the lamb, grant us gentle hearts and peaceful minds. Amen.

## PASSING THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.  
‡ **And also with you.**

## \*HYMN

*"Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*

#82

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

‡ **O God, there are many troubling things in our lives and in our society, yet we are tempted to avoid naming them, in hopes they will miraculously go away. Sometimes our courage falters and our minds wander to embrace comforting illusions. Forgive us our tendency to avoid facing life as it is, and grant us both the courage to recognize evil and the wisdom to name and embrace what is blessed.**

*Moment for silent reflection and confession.*

## **ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Friends, the God of Grace freely pardons all who approach with honest and contrite hearts. God releases us from guilt and shame. Therefore, believe the good news of the Gospel.

**∴ Through the grace of God, the love of Jesus Christ, and the insight of the Holy Spirit, we are all forgiven. Amen.**

## **ANTHEM**

*"Wexford Carol"*  
ARR. HOWARD HELVEY

Chancel Choir

Good people all, this Christmas time  
Consider well and bear in mind  
What our good God for us has done  
In sending his beloved son

With Mary holy we should pray  
To God with love on Christmas Day  
In Bethlehem upon that morn  
Will be a blessed Messiah born

Near Bethlehem will shepherds keep  
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep  
To whom God's angels will appear  
And put the shepherds in great fear

'Prepare and go, ' the angels say  
'To Bethlehem, be not afraid  
For there you'll find, that happy morn  
A princely babe, sweet Jesus born

With thankful heart and joyful mind  
The shepherds go, this babe to find  
And as God's angel has foretold  
Will our Savior Christ behold

Within a manger he is laid  
And by his side the virgin maid  
Attending on the Lord of life  
Who comes to earth to end all strife.

# Listening for God's Word

## MOMENT JUST FOR THE CHILDREN

John Herman

*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.*

*Following the children's moment, children through 5th grade are invited to attend Children's Sunday School or parents can take advantage of childcare for infants through 5 years old. The head usher will be happy to assist you in the narthex!*

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

### SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 60:1-6  
Luke 6:31-38

OT pg. 690  
NT pg. 64

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

## SERMON

"In the Nick of Time"

Reverend John Herman

# Responding to God's Word

## \*RESPONSE

*"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"*

#88

(v. 2)

2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high,  
who or - derest all things might - i - ly:  
to us the path of knowl - edge show;  
and teach us in her ways to go. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
Em-man - u-el shall come to thee, O Is - ra-el.

**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,  
hallowed 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 debts,  
as we forgive our debtors.  
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 dropped into the offering plate as it is passed, 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**

*“E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come”*  
PAUL MANZ

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.

*Glory to God 608*

*Text: Neil Weatherhogg, 1988, © 1990 Neil Weatherhogg; Music: Hal H. Hopson, 2008, © 2008 Hal H. Hopson.  
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**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION<sup>1</sup>**

# Sent Out in Jesus' Name

## INVITATION TO COMMUNITY

**\*HYMN**                      *"Who Would Think That What Was Needed?"*                      Insert

## **\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**\*POSTLUDE**                      *"Wexford Carol"*                      Chancel Choir  
ARR. HOWARD HELVEY

*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**

Head Usher	Sue Schnebel
Ushers	Sue Schnebel, Marge Cawley
Worship Techs	Bianca Osorio, Jim Niemann
Trustee on Duty	Cheri Hardy
Deacon of the Month	Patty Griffiths
Sanctuary Readiness	Larry Seubert

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 2* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2015), 216ff.

## **REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**WHITE ROSE:** *Has been placed on the communion table in memory of Baby Sebastian, nephew to Ted & Ashley Gibson.*

**DEACON HONORARY PLANT:** *Given this day by Mark & Sue Henderson celebrating 49 years of marriage.*

**MEMORIAL BOOK:** *To the Glory of God and in remembrance of George Mayer, a memorial perpetuated in Organ Fund by Mike & Betty Miller, May 1986.*

**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:** Katie Ranes, John Griffin, Bill Ranes; Dennis Gilliland; Betsy Youngs; Barbara Smith; Bev Phillips; Jim Phillips; Rob, Chet Henry's brother; Beckie Burke; Diane Watkins.

**Homebound:** Joanna Fancher, Helen Alderson

**Birthdays this coming week:** Wendy Sevlie, Clarissa Knorr

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

**Elders:** Alan Sweeney, Lawn Griffiths, Molly Winkler

**Deacons:** Nancy Martin, Jim Niemann, Laura Green, Jeanette Miller

**Trustees:** Carol Rickel, Cheri Hardy, Dan Maloney

**Presbytery:** Gloria Christi, Paradise Valley, their pastor: Rev. Bill Johnson

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## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**CHILDREN'S BIBLE TIME (Sundays, 10:00 am - 10:45 am, Rm 2):** Welcome all children grades K-5! Join us in developing a Christian foundation through Bible stories, discussions, music, and hands-on activities. Children are encouraged to participate in Communion, so Bible Time meets immediately after the Children's Moment on all Sundays except for the first Sunday of each month (and occasional holidays.)

**YOUTH GROUP (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Rm 9):** All Youth are invited. Fellowship, games, and snacks will be involved! For more information you may contact Ted Gibson [tedgibson@upctempe.org](mailto:tedgibson@upctempe.org).

- **Dec. 8** - youth in worship; service project 11 - noon
- **Dec 15** - youth group dinner 5:00 - 6:30 pm
- **Dec 22** - Christmas Party! 11:00 - noon
- **Dec 29** - no youth group - winter break

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

- **Dec. 8 - Dec. 22** - "Names for the Messiah" hosted by Rev. Shelly Moe

**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.*

**CONGREGATIONAL WORKDAY:** The Trustees' Fall work Session will run through December 21st, so if you have an hour or two to help out, we have a task for you! The QR code will take you to our sign up sheet, or contact Steve White (602) 617-8308.



**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (Sunday, Dec 8, immediately after morning service)** for the purpose of electing officers.

**PW SWEET TREATS SALE (Sunday, Dec 8 at 3:00 pm, Patio, Narthex)**

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT (Sunday, Dec 8 at 4:00 pm, Sanctuary):** An afternoon of joyous music featuring the chancel choir, handbell ensemble, organ, piano and more.

**WRAPPING PARTY: (Tuesday, Dec 10 at 9:00 am, Fellowship Hall):** Next Tuesday, Dec 10th, will be one of our regular sorting days as we sort donations and prepare a load of supplies for Centro de Esperanza. BUT, it's also going to be a wrapping party! We have a bunch of gifts for the Afghan girls for Christmas that need wrapped- and many hands make light work! If you would like to join us for this special party, please come to the Fellowship Hall at 9am on Tuesday! I'll have wrapping supplies on hand, but feel free to bring some. Holly

**SANTA'S WORKSHOP (Saturday, Dec 14, Meeting Room & Fellowship Hall, 10:00 a.m.):** The elves have been busy up at the North Pole and could use some help. If you would like to be an "Elf" and help PW, join us as we wrap and bundle gifts to be delivered to Family Promise, PAZ, Justa Center, refugees and Manna Bags. There will be games and treats to eat. Hope to see you there.

**POINSETTIAS FOR THE HOLIDAYS:** \$15.00 is the cost of a poinsettia to be in honor of or in memory of loved ones and/or someone special to you this holiday season. The deacons will have a table set up to accept your donations or you may contact Diane Hillyard or Nancy Martin.

**PW THANK OFFERING:** Our thanks to the congregation for your support of our Thank Offering. With the help from this year's grants, babies, children and youth are cared for, and vulnerable people encounter the love of God through people who advocate for them. Six projects were funded in the US and two international, one of which was in Haiti. Our collection will continue through December 8<sup>th</sup>. Kathy Wagner

**RISE SHINE BREAD:** We have delivered 10,294 mini-loaves and 5,720 full-sized loaves of bread to those in need. Thanks to the UPC bakers and please invite your friends to become a baker. The project has about 45 bakers, including 15 who regularly bake. Please contact Andrea White at



info@riseshinebread.org or (480) 580-3021. Here is a link to a video you can view!  
<https://youtu.be/Go5llLjTuw>.

**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, if you have new contact info (phone, email, etc.), include that info as well 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 8**

9:30 am      Worship Service (S, Z, YouTube)  
10:00 am      Children's Bible Time (Rm 2)  
11:00 am      Adult Sunday School (Z, S)  
11:00 am      Youth Fellowship (Rm 9)  
3:00 pm      PW Sweet Treats Sale (Patio, Narthex)  
4:00 pm      Christmas Concert (S)  
6:30 pm      PW Kayenta Circle (MR)

**Mon., Dec 9**

3:00 pm      Higher Octave Healing (Resource, Rms 2-3)  
8:00 pm      Stewardship Committee (Z)  
8:30 pm      AA Meeting (Rm 7)

**Tue., Dec 10**

3:30 pm      Higher Octave Healing (Resource, Rms 2-3)  
7:00 pm      Finance Committee (Z)  
7:00 pm      Worship Committee (Z)

**Wed., Dec 11**

9:00 am      Lectio Divina Bible Study (Z)  
1:00 pm      Higher Octave Healing (Resource, Rms 2-3, Lounge)  
3:45 pm      Worship Planning Team (Z)  
5:15 pm      Wednesday Night Dinner (K, FH)  
6:00 pm      Bell Choir Practice (S)  
7:00 pm      Chancel Choir Rehearsal (CH)

**Thu., Dec 12**

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

**Fri., Dec 13**

1:00 pm      Higher Octave Healing (Resource, Rms 2-3)  
3:00 pm      I-HELP -Meal: Sai Organization (FH, K)  
8:30 pm      A.A. Meeting (Rm 7)

**Sat., Dec 14**

7:00 am I-HELP guests depart  
8:00 am Men's Breakfast (MR)  
8:30 am Santa's Workshop Set-up (FH)  
10:00 am PW Santa's Workshop (FH)

**Sun., Dec 15**

*PC (USA) Christmas Joy Offering*

9:30 am Worship Service (S, Z, YouTube)  
10:00 am Children's Bible Time (Rm 2)  
11:00 am Adult Sunday School (Z, S)  
11:00 am Youth Fellowship (Rm 9)

**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***

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[www.upctempe.org](http://www.upctempe.org) • e-mail: [upc@upctempe.org](mailto:upc@upctempe.org)

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

*(Office is remote on Fridays)*

**Ministers**

Temporary Pastor  
Administrative Assistant  
Director of Music & Christian Education  
Organist/Accompanist  
Clerk of Session  
Treasurer/Bookkeeper  
Attendance Secretaries  
Custodian

**Every Member**

Rev. Ken Moe  
Lori Saager  
Ted Gibson  
Jon Sywassink  
Brigitta Kuiper  
Andrea White  
Sharlan Pierce, Jeanette Miller  
Carrie Miter