

**The Order
Of
Divine Worship**

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Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2011

10:30 A.M.

PRELUDE (Please register your attendance.)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

* THE HYMN No. 234 (UMH)

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

* THE ACT OF PRAISE

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands.
Come into God’s presence with singing.

It is God who made us, and sent his Son to save us:

We are God’s people, the sheep of God’s pasture.

Enter into worship in a spirit of thanksgiving;
worship the Christ who came with joyful hearts.

**God’s steadfast love endures forever,
and God’s faithfulness to all generations.**

Grace to you and peace from God, our Creator,
and from our savior, Jesus Christ.

The Christ who came is with us day by day.

Our Immanuel is faithful and true.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Opening prayers (in unison)

God of our weakness and our strength, unite our hearts to praise your name and trust in your saving grace. God of our hungers and our contentment, lead us toward the fullness of blessing you intend and away from undue concern about self and possessions. God of peace, be with us to calm the wars within and resolve the differences among us. God who gives us joy, restore the joy of your salvation so that we may forever sing your praises. Amen.

Silent prayers

Lord’s prayer (in unison)

Our Father, who 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 forever. Amen.

LIGHTING THE FORTH ADVENT CANDLE

(please see yellow insert)

Jeanne Sturm & Pat Gruber

THE CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Chancel Choir

“Shout the Good News”

Rick & Cassie Foley

Narrators

RESPONSE AND PRAYER

GIVING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

* THE DOXOLOGY

No. 94 (UMH)

* THE HYMN

No. 238 (UMH)

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Carry your songs of praise into the world;
let others know that God sent his Son.

**God goes with us, continuing to renew and bless;
filling our lives with joy and expectation.**

We have heard the Good news the angels sang
and celebrate as we prepare for Christ’s coming.

**We are learning how to listen and how to speak
so that we may tell others about Christ the Lord.**

The Lord is our salvation and he has become our song,
the joy of the Lord is our strength.

The Christ who came is with us;

We leave with thanksgiving and praise in our hearts.



THE HYMN No. 196 (UMH)
"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

THE RESPONSIVE READING

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who has come to set the chosen people free.

**The Lord has raised up for us
a mighty Savior from the house of David.**

Through the holy prophets, God promised of old to save us
from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us;

**to show mercy to our forebears and to remember
the holy covenant.**

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: to set
us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship with-
out fear,

**holy and righteous in the Lord's sight, all the days
of our life.**

And your, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

**to give God's people knowledge of salvation by
the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high
shall break upon us,

**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the
shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the
way of peace.**

Light the Fourth Advent Candle

THE HYMN NO. 2090 (FWS Stanza 4)
"Light the Advent Candle"

SERVING THE LORD

Ushers: Leonard McJames, Earl Crawford
Bill Lackie, Bill Merillat
Greeters: Carolyn Maynard
Counters: Gary & Brenda Boots
Bob & Sharon Raymond
Trustee for Dec.: Bob Raymond (back-up Carol Becks)
Coffee Hour Dec. 18: Jeanne, Ronda, Gayle
Sunday School Teacher: Ruth Sutton

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Dec. 21 Don & Ruth Decker 58 years
Dec. 23 Pastor Cutting
Dec. 24 Garry Coveart



*Altar flowers are given by the
Worship Committee
To the Glory of our Living God*

Sanford United Methodist Church

Our Staff

The Rev. Dr. Anthony N. Cutting: pastor@sanfordumc.org
Ruth Ann Wrona: secretary@sanfordumc.org
Lois McJames: Organist
Pam Brink: Music Director
Ronda Bowen: Treasurer
Kami Wade: Custodian
Meredith Abbe: Nursery