

**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**

December 7th, 2008

2nd Sunday of Advent

•Those who are able may stand

**GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE**

**Prelude** "Christmas Rhapsody"

Sara Ann and JoAnn

**Greetings and Announcements** (Please sign the friendship register)

**Minute For Mission** "Joy Gift"

**Gathering Song** "Emmanuel"

**Call to Worship** (Romans 13:11)

Leader: Salvation is nearer to us now than we first believed

**People: The night is far gone, the day is near!**

**Prayer of the Day**

**Children's Sermon - Advent Candle**

•**Hymn 9** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" VENI EMMANUEL

•**Prayer of Confession**

**God of grace, ever faithful to Your promises, the earth rejoices in hope of our Savior's coming and looks forward with longing to His return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts to receive Him when He comes, for He is Lord forever and ever. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

•**Assurance of Pardon** (Romans 8:34; II Corinthians 5:17)

Leader: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?

**People: Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.**

Leader: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

**People: The old life has gone, a new life has begun.**

•**Responding to God's Forgiveness - The Gloria Patri #579**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen. Amen.

**PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**First Scripture Reading:** Luke 3:1-9

**Anthem** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Adult Choir

**Second Scripture Reading:** Luke 3:10-18

**Sermon** "Good News?" Rev. Joel Thornton

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD**

•**Apostles' Creed** (p.14)

•**Hymn 2** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" HYFRYDOL

**GIVING THANKS TO GOD**

**Offering Our Lives and Presenting Our Tithes**

**Offertory** "In The Bleak Mid-Winter"

•**The Prayer of Dedication**

**The Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**GOING FORTH INTO THE WORLD**

•**Hymn 31** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" MENDELSSOHN

•**The Charge and Blessing**

•**The Congregational Response** #29 "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

**Postlude**

\*\*\*\*\*

**WELCOME TO BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

We hope you will find a home for your heart and an opportunity to serve.