***Service of Word and Sacrament*
Anacortes Christian Reformed Church
First Sunday in Advent, November 29, 2020**

**Call to Worship: Emmanuel**

A sign shall be given a virgin will conceive
A human baby bearing undiminished deity
The glory of the nations a light for all to see
That hope for all who will embrace His warm reality

Immanuel our God is with us
And if God is with us who could stand against us
Our God is with us, Immanuel

For all those who live in the shadow of death
A glorious light has dawned
For all those who stumble in the darkness
Behold your light has come

Immanuel our God is with us
And if God is with us who could stand against us
Our God is with us, Immanuel

So what will be Your answer? Will You hear the call?
Of Him who did not spare His son but gave Him for us all
On earth there is no power there is no depth or height
That could ever separate us from the love of God in Christ

Immanuel our God is with us
And if God is with us who could stand against us
Our God is with us, Immanuel

**Advent Gathering**

*Minister:* Lift up your hearts.
*People:* **We lift them up to the Lord.**
*Minister:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
*People:* **It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**
*Minister:*

With joy we praise you, gracious God, for you have created heaven and earth,
made us in your image, and kept covenant with us – even when we fell into sin.
We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord,
whose coming opened to us the way of salvation and whose triumphant return we eagerly await.
Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation
to proclaim the glory of your name.

**Service of the Word . . .**

**Meditation from Isaiah 7:14, “God With Us”**

**Confession and Assurance**

*The Call to Confession*

*Minister:* God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
(1 John 1:5b-8)

*The Confession*

*All:***Most holy and merciful Father,
We confess to you and to one another,
that we have sinned against you by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not fully loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not always had in us the mind of Christ.
You alone know how often we have grieved you by wasting your gifts,
by wandering from your ways, by forgetting your love.**

 **Forgive us, we pray you, most merciful Father, and free us from our sin.
Renew in us the grace and strength of your Holy Spirit,
for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son, our Savior. Amen.**

*The Declaration of Pardon*

*Minister:* To all who confess themselves to be sinners, humbling themselves before God and believing in the Lord Jesus Christ for their salvation, I declare this sure promise: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

*The Response*

Leader: Hear, O people of God, the law which the Lord speaks in your hearing this day, that you may know his statutes and walk according to his ordinances.
People: **Teach us, O Lord, the grace of your law, and give us life by your Word.**Leader: The God who saved us in Jesus Christ gave this law, saying: I am the Lord your God! You shall have no other gods before me.
People: **We will worship the Lord our God and serve only him.**
Leader: You shall not make yourself an image of anything to worship it.
People: **Living no more in bondage to earthly gods, we will worship the Lord our God in spirit and in truth.**
Leader: You shall not misuse the name of the Lord.
People: **We will use the holy name of God with reverence, praising him in everything we do and say.**
Leader: You shall observe the Sabbath by keeping it holy, for in six days you shall labor and do all your work.
People: **This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
Leader: The first part of the law is this great commandment:
People: **That we love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our mind, and with all our strength.**
Leader: The second part of the Law is similar to the first: you shall honor your father and mother, that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving to you.
People: **As children we will be obedient to our parents in the Lord; as parents we will correct our children and guide them in the training and instruction of the Lord; we will respect the lawful authorities appointed by God.**
Leader: You shall not murder.
People: **We will be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave us.**
Leader: You shall not commit adultery.
People: **We will use our bodies in ways that are holy and honorable, and abstain from immorality and impurity.**
Leader: You shall not steal.
People: **We will do what we can for our neighbor's good, and work faithfully so that we may share with the poor.**
Leader: You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
People: **We will speak the truth with our neighbor in love, render judgments that are true and make for peace, and not devise in our hearts any evil against anyone.**
Leader: You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.
People: **We will be content whatever the circumstances through the strength of Christ within us.**
Leader: Thus we must love our neighbor as ourselves.
People: **For the Lord requires of us to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God. Amen!**

*The Creed*

*Leader:* Let us together confess the faith of the church at all times and in all places:

*All:*

 **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

 **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
      who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
      He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.
      He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
      From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

 **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
      the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,**
**the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**. . . and Sacrament**

*Minister:* Brothers and sisters in Christ, the gospels tell us that on the first day of the week, the day on which our Lord rose from the dead, he appeared to some of his disciples and was made known to them in the breaking of bread. Come, then, to the joyful feast of our Lord.

*Behold the Lamb* *Stuart Townend and Keith Getty*

**Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,
Slain for us: and we remember:
The promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this Bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the King.**

**The body of our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
Torn for you: eat and remember
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life, paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of love around the table of the King.**

**The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,
Shed for you: drink and remember
He drained death’s cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God.
So we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the King.**

**And so with thankfulness and faith we rise**

**To respond, - and to remember**

**Our call to follow in the steps of Christ as His body here on earth.**

**As we share in His suffering , we proclaim Christ will come again!**

**And we’ll join in the feast of heaven around the table of the King**

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*The Thanksgiving*

*Minister:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Minister:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:***It is right for us to give thanks.
It is our joy and our peace, at all times and in all places
to give thanks to you, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God,
through Christ our Lord.**

*Minister:* We bless you for your continual love and care for every creature.

We praise you for forming us in your image and calling us to be your people.

We thank you that you did not abandon us in our rebellion against your love, but sent prophets and teachers to lead us into the way of salvation.

Above all we thank you for sending Jesus, your Son, to deliver us from the way of sin and death by the obedience of his life, by his suffering upon the cross, and by his resurrection from the dead. We praise you that he now reigns with you in glory and ever lives to pray for us.

We thank you for the Holy Spirit, who leads us into truth, defends us in adversity, and out of every people unites us into one holy church.

Therefore with the whole company of saints in heaven and on earth we worship and glorify you, God most holy.

*Jesus, Name Above All Names Naida Hearn*

**Jesus, Name above all names,**

**Beautiful Savior, Glorious Lord.**

 **Emmanuel, God is with us,
Blessed Redeemer, Living Word.**

***Jesus, Name above all names,***

***Light of this dark world, lighting our path to heaven.***

***The Way, the Truth, the Living Water,
True Bread from heaven, Food for the soul.***

**Jesus, Name above all names,**

**Vine for the branches, giving them life and nurture.**

**The Lamb of God, bearing the world’s sin,
Shepherd of Israel, Lord of the Church.**

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*The Institution*

*Minister:* We give thanks to God the Father that our Savior, Jesus Christ, before he suffered, gave us this memorial of this sacrifice, until he comes again:

 "The Lord Jesus, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way, he took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." (1 Cor. 11:23-26)

*The Memorial*

*All:***We shall do as our Lord commands.
We proclaim that our Lord Jesus was sent by the Father into the world,
that he took upon himself our flesh and blood,
and bore the wrath of God against our sin.
We confess that he was condemned to die that we might be pardoned,
and suffered death that we might live.**

**We proclaim that he is risen to make us right with God,
and that he shall come again in the glory of his new creation.**

 **This we do now,
and until he comes again.**

*Prayer of Consecration*

*Minister:* Heavenly Father, show forth among us the presence of your life-giving Word and Holy Spirit, to sanctify us and your whole church through this sacrament. Grant that all who share the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ may be one in him and may remain faithful in love and hope. And as this grain has been gathered from many fields into one loaf and these grapes from many hills into one cup, grant, O Lord, that your whole church may soon be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom. Now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray:

*All:*
 **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
 Your kingdom come; your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors.
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.**

*Preparation of the Elements*

*Minister:* The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

*People:* **We who are many are one body, for we all share the same loaf.**

*Minister:* The cup for which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

*People:* **The cup which we drink is our participation in the blood of Christ.**

*The Invitation*

*Minister:* Congregation in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared his table for all who love him and trust in him alone for their salvation. All who are truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who desire to live in obedience to him, are now invited to come with gladness to the table of the Lord.

*Jesus, Name Above All Names Naida Hearn*

**Jesus, Name above all names,**

**Beautiful Savior, Glorious Lord.**

 **Emmanuel, God is with us,
Blessed Redeemer, Living Word.**

***Jesus, Name above all names,***

***Light of this dark world, lighting our path to heaven.***

***The Way, the Truth, the Living Water,
True Bread from heaven, Food for the soul.***

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**Vine for the branches, giving them life and nurture.**

**The Lamb of God, bearing the world’s sin,
Shepherd of Israel, Lord of the Church.**

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*The Dedication*

*Minister:* The gifts of God for the people of God.

*All:***Holy Father, in thanks for the sacrifice of Jesus Christ,
in the joy of his resurrection, in the hope of his coming again,
we present ourselves a living sacrifice
and come to the table of our Lord.**

*The Communion*

*Minister:* Take, eat, remember and believe that the body of our Lord Jesus Christ was given for the complete forgiveness of all our sins.

*Minister:* Take, drink, remember and believe that the precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ was shed for the complete forgiveness of all our sins.

*The Thanksgiving*

*Minister:* Congregation in Christ, since the Lord has fed us at his table, let us praise his holy name with thanksgiving.

*All:***Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.**

**He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases;
he redeems my life from the pit and crowns me with love and compassion.**

**He satisfies my desires with good things, so that my youth is renewed like the eagle's** (Ps. 103:1-5).

**The Dismissal**

*Minister:* The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ, our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

*People:* **Amen**.

*Minister:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel 12th Century Latin Hymn*

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

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