

Laguna Niguel Presbyterian Church

A Service for the Worship of God

1st Sunday of Advent • November 29, 2009 • 10:00 am

*For those who are able, please stand.

Please turn your cell phones off prior to entering the Worship Service.

**“And out of the darkness came the hands
That reach thro’ nature, moulding men.”**

— *Alfred Lord Tennyson*

MORNING PRAISE

Majestic

by Lincoln Brewster

WELCOME

Rev. Emily McColl

**SONG OF DEVOTION AND PRAISE*

God of Wonders

by S. Hindalong and M. Byrd

Indescribable

by Chris Tomlin

Stan Pepek, Pedro & Dawn Pulido

**CALL TO WORSHIP*

Lani Colley

Leader: Today we remember the prophets of old, who spoke to a people who were lost in darkness, who dared to speak of a child to come, of the humble and personal incarnation of the creative and redeeming “I AM.”

People: *Today we give thanks for those among us, who bring us surprising new visions of hope, who challenge us to think afresh, and who show us a future we never anticipated..*

Leader: On this first Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of hope, that we might be strengthened and renewed in our faith and be reminded of what may be.

People: *God announces a new day for those who respond to God’s call. Let us hear and believe God’s promise to us.*

PRAYER OF ADORATION

RESPONSE

*“O come, let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.”*

ADESTE FIDELES

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Gracious God, we confess to the doubts mixed in with our faith. You have brought us a long way through life, but there have been many dark times when you seem to have forgotten us. We have doubted your word, denied your love, and acted as people without promise. Lift us out of the shadow of self concern. Confront us with grace powerful enough to change us. Hear now our silent prayers of confession...Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

People: *In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!*

Leader: Dare to believe that your sins are forgiven and that you are a new creation.

All: *Amazing grace has been offered to us. Let us receive God's transformation and live!*

**PRAISE TO GOD (GLORIA PATRI)*

*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.*

**AFFIRMING GOD'S GRACE*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Christie Phillips

MUSICAL OFFERING

Every Valley
Chancel Choir

by John Ness Beck

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Please complete the yellow cards provided.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

John Bare
Loren Thornburg

MORNING PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING OF OUR LIVES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners
Stan Pepek

by J. Wilbur Chapman

**DOXOLOGY*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND ILLUMINATION (In Unison)*

Lord God, giver of life, we dedicate our wants and our blessings to you, that your Word would go out into the world in a creative and redemptive way. And as we give these offerings to you, we commit ourselves to be your people. Speak to us now, that in your light, we may see light, and in your truth, we may find hope. Through Jesus Christ our Lord... Amen.

**HYMN OF PREPARATION 133 (Verses 3, 4, 5) O Come, O Come, Emmanuel VENI EMMANUEL*

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:1-5

Pew Bible, N. T. Page 91

SERMON

"Hope: From Chaos to Creativity"

Rev. Emily McColl

Jesus Christ is fully God, and God with us. We were created at the sound of his voice, and we are becoming a new creation by his life-giving Word even now.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Brief Statement of Faith

Lines 41-51

*In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.
Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.*

**HYMN OF COMMITMENT 135*

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

**BENEDICTION*

(THE PRAYER TEAM IS AVAILABLE AFTER TODAY'S SERVICE BY THE STAINED GLASS WINDOW ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE SANCTUARY.)

**CHORAL RESPONSE*

Prayer For The Road

*May we be blessed as we go on our way.
May we be kept in safety and love.
May grace and compassion find their way to every soul.
May this be our blessing, Amen. Amen, Amen.
May this be our blessing, Amen. Amen, Amen.
May this be our blessing, Amen. Amen, Amen*

**POSTLUDE*

Come Now, Savior of the Nations
Suk Choi, Organ

by J.S. Bach

Today's flowers are donated by Evelyn Beach
"Thanking God for all of our pastors, past and present."

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“Remember God loves you”

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