

* WORDS OF DEDICATION

May the presence of God the Creator give you strength;
May the presence of God the Redeemer give us peace;
May the presence of God the Sustainer give you comfort;
May the presence of God the Sanctifier give us love. Amen.

* BENEDICTION

* CHORAL RESPONSE "Away in a Manger" vs. 3 217

* POSTLUDE "Luther Hymn" by Robert Lane

* Please Stand

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In a Friendly Sort O' Way

When a man ain't got a cent, and he's feeling kind o' blue,
An' the clouds hang dark an' heavy, an' won't let the sunshine through,
It's a great thing, O, My brethren, for a feller just to lay
His hand upon your shoulder in a friendly sort o' way.

I make a man feel curious, it make the teardrops start,
An' you sort o' feel a flutter in the region of the heart;
You can look up and meet his eyes; you don't know what to say
When his hand is on your shoulder in a friendly sort o' way.

Oh, the world's a curious compound, with it honey and its gall,
With its cares and bitter crosses, but a good world. after all.
An' a good God must have made it--leastways, that is what I say,
When a hand is on my shoulder in a friendly sort of way.

- James Whitcomb Riley

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GROOME CHURCH
P.O. Box 299
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FOUNDED IN 1904



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Serving Christ & Community for over 100 Years"
"Small enough to care, large enough for Vital Ministry"

GROOME CHURCH

December 4, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

Reverend, Dr. S. Willard Crossan, III

Associate Pastor: Reverend Rich Evans

Second Sunday of Advent/Holy Communion Sunday

CELEBRATION OF PEACE

BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE AND CHRISTMAS TREE

GATHERING AND REFLECTION

PARISH CALENDAR AND GREETING *Reverend Rich Evans*

ORGAN PRELUDE "Come Long Awaited Savior" *by David Paxton*

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: The Lord is in his holy temple.

People: Let all the earth keep silence before him.

Leader Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise from the ends of the earth!

People: Show us thy steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us thy salvation.

HYMN OF PRAISE "My Soul Gives Glory to My God" 198

LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE *Mark Lyman & Connie Shockley*

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ the Peace May the Word sent from God through the prophets lead us to the way of salvation. O come, O, come Emmanuel. Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

CALL OF CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, source of all that makes life possible, giver of all that makes life good: We gather to give you our thanks, yet we confess that we have often failed to live our thankfulness. What we have we take for granted, and we grumble about what we lack. We have squandered your bounty, with little thought of those who will come after us. We are more troubled by the few who have more than by the many who have less. Forgive us, O God. In this hour of worship, accept our thanksgiving; and teach us to make gratitude and sharing our way of life; through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CHOIR ANTHEM "Come to the Table"

PROCLAMATION AND PRAISE

Leader: O Lord, open our hearts and our minds;

People: that we may behold wonderful things out of your word.

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 11:1-10 *Retta Rose Frampton*

Epistle Lesson Romans 15:4-13 *Yvonne Martz*

* Gospel Lesson Matthew 3:1-12

* Affirmation of Faith "Romans " 887

* Gloria Patri

* Passing of the Peace

PRAYERS, OFFERINGS AND REFLECTIONS

COLLECT

In the Advent seasons, when the past has fled, unasked away and there is nothing left to do but wait, God, shelter us. Be our surrounding darkness; be the fertile soil out of which hope springs in due time. In uncertain times, help us to greet the dawn and labor on, love on in faith awaiting your purpose hid in your waiting to be born in due time. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

-Voicing of our Petitions-

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

WORDS OF PRESENTATION

OFFERING

THE PRESENTATION "Doxology" 95

BLESSING THE CHRISMON AND CHRISTMAS TREE

THE MYSTERY OF THE INCARNATION *Dr. Crossan*

John 1:1-5,9-14

Holy Lord, we come with joy to celebrate the birth of your Son, who rescued us from the darkness of sin by making the cross a tree of life and light. May this tree, arrayed in splendor, remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ, that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines in our hearts. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" 216

ADVENT MEDITATION "The Peaceable Kingdom" *Dr. Crossan*

HOLY COMMUNION "The Great Thanksgiving" *Insert*
Giving of the Bread and Cup (*Hymns played softly*)

HYMN OF DEDICATION "Blessed Be the God of Israel" 209