THE ORDER FOR OUR WORSHIP

PRELUDE - "Awake, the Voice is Calling" tune Wacket Auf, setting by Karow.

HYMN 340 vs 1, 2, 4, 5 - we sing, standing

ADVENT WREATH ~ 1st **SUNDAY**

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Dear friends in Christ, today we begin the season of Advent. It is a time of watching and waiting for the coming of the Lord. The Advent wreath reminds us of our yearning for God. Its circular shape tells us of God's everlasting love and faithfulness. The four candles remind us of the passing of time, our human history into which God has entered through His Son, Jesus. On this First Sunday of Advent, we remember how our Lord was first hailed as the coming king, and we look forward to the day when our King will come again. As we light the first candle on the Advent wreath, may its flame bid us always to be ready for the coming of the Lord.

Lord Jesus, You came into the world to reveal Your Father's love. Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, by Your dying and rising You have given us the promise of eternal life. Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, You ask us to be ready, watching and waiting for Your coming. Lord, have mercy.

May Almighty God have mercy upon you, forgive your sins, and bring you to everlasting life. Amen.

> 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!

GREETING, followed by PRAYER The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(please be seated)

FIRST LESSON (bulletin back page) This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

PSALM 25:1-10 - we sing, see insert

SECOND LESSON (bulletin back page) This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

page 156 - ALLELUIA VERSE we sing, standing

GOSPEL (bulletin back page) Before, all shout: Glory to you, O Lord! After, all shout: Praise to you, O Christ!

HYMN 332 - we sing, seated 1 - all 2 - all

3 - font side 4 - pulpit side

5 - all 8 - all

SERMON

NICENE CREED - hymnal, back cover, all standing

OFFERTORY

During the gathering (10:30) the Parish Choir sings "Prepare" by Alan Pote

page 160 - **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

page 161 - SANCTUS

LORD'S PRAYER

page 162 - WORDS OF OUR LORD

SHARING OF PEACE

page 163 - AGNUS DEI

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT During the Distribution we sing **HYMNS** 348 & 350.

All are invited to commune who have been baptized and instructed in the Faith; who repent of their sins; who are committed to Christ and to the mission of his church; and who believe with us that we receive and share our Savior's Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and the wine of the Sacrament - which

gives us His forgiveness and makes us one Christian family.

All who commune, kindly sign your names in our Communicant Register, which is located on the narthex shelf along side our Guest Register.

Page 165 - POST-COMMUNION **CANTICLE** - all standing

page 166 - POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

page 166 - BENEDICTION

HYMN 443 - we sing, standing

POSTLUDE - "The Advent of our God" tune St. Thomas, setting by Brandon.

NEWS AND NOTES

This Week Here

Tues - 7:00 PM - Council Meeting Wed - 1:30 PM - Bible Study - 7:00 PM - Bell Choir - Parish Choir - 7:45 PM -10:30 AM - Pageant Sun - Advent Brunch - 11:30 AM

(continued on back of Psalm insert)

A WORD ABOUT THE LESSONS

The Lord Jesus Comes in Meekness and Humility to Save Us Although we pray that God "would rend the heavens and come down" (Is. 64:1), that He would take vengeance against our enemies, we ourselves "have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment" (Is. 64:6). We have continued in our sins for "a long time, and shall we be saved?" (Is. 64:5). Yet, the Lord does not punish us in anger. He comes in voluntary meekness and humility to save us by His grace. Just as He once came into Jerusalem to sacrifice Himself for us upon the cross (Mark 11:4–8), He still comes to His Church with the fruits of His Passion. By His ministry of the Gospel, we are "enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge," and so He will "sustain you to the end" (1 Cor. 1:5, 8). Although "heaven and earth will pass away," His words "will not pass away" (Mark 13:31). As He sends disciples to call us to Himself in the fellowship of His Church, so will He "send out the angels" to gather us and all of His elect "from the ends of the earth" to Himself in heaven forever (Mark 13:27).