

LEWINSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 13, 2020 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 11:00 AM

WELCOME The Rev. Dr. Scott Ramsey

PRELUDE Herr Gott, nun Sei Gepreiset BWV 601 Johann Sebastian Bach

OPENING PRAYER The Rev. Jen Dunfee

OPENING HYMN O Come, O Come, Emmanuel from 12/15/19 recording

O come, O come, Emmanuel! Redeem thy captive Israel That into exile drear is gone, Far from the face of God's dear Son. Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Branch of Jesse! Draw The quarry from the lion's claw; From the dread caverns of the grave, From nether hell, thy people save. **Refrain**

O come, O come, thou Dayspring bright! Pour on our souls thy healing light; Dispel the long night's lingering gloom, And pierce the shadows of the tomb. **Refrain**

O Come, thou Lord of David's Key! The royal door fling wide and free; Safeguard for us the heavenward road, And bar the way to death's abode. **Refrain**

O come, O come, Adonai, Who in thy glorious majesty From that high mountain clothed in awe, Gavest thy folk the elder Law. **Refrain**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH Luke 2:8-10

Dokken Family

Reader: Today we remember the shepherds. It wasn't the rich and famous who came to worship Jesus that first Christmas Eve, but poor shepherds, working hard in the fields. God saw them, God valued them, and God declared the greatest news of all to them first.

People: Today we give thanks for the shepherds among us, those whom we can easily overlook or ignore, yet to whom God is committed, and who have much to teach us about watching for God in the darkness.

Reader: On this third Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of the shepherds, agents of the gospel and hearers of the word.

People: Come, Lord Jesus!

SCRIPTURE READINGS Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Rachel Russell

John 1:6-8, 19-28

SERMON Light in Our Wilderness The Rev. Dr. Scott Ramsey

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

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

UPDATE FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE (APNC)

Siobhan Grayson

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY In the Bleak Midwinter arr. Karen Lakey Buckwater

(recorded 12/8/19)

RESPONSE While We Are Waiting Come (vs. 3)

Come, Savior, quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come. Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Jen Dunfee

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.

CLOSING HYMN Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming ES IST EIN' ROS'

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung, of Jesse's lineage coming by faithful prophets sung.

It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind; with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright she bore for us a Savior when half-spent was the night.

This flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air, dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.

Enfleshed, yet very God, from sin and death He saves us and lightens every load

BLESSING The Rev. Dr. Scott Ramsey

POSTLUDE Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen Op.122 no.8 Johannes Brahms

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God by **Paul and Rosalind Phillips** in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Participating in the worship service (in order of appearance):

The Rev. Dr. Scott Ramsey

The Rev. Jen Dunfee

John Nothaft, Director of Music Ministries

Chancel Choir (pre-recorded)

Patty, Tim, Andrew, and Paul Dokken, Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Rachel Russell, Lay Reader

Laura Snyderman, Soprano

Jeannette Mulherin, Alto

Evan Ayars, Tenor

John Clewett, Bass

Eimi Tuttle, Soprano

CHRISTMAS DECORATION FUND

For the Christmas Season in 2020, we will be decorating the front of the Sanctuary as always. We will also step up our decorations for outside the church since other interior decorations will not be needed. Contribute below:

You may contribute to our Christmas Decoration Fund this year by filling out the form below and returning it to the church office or on the web page, https://www.lewinsville.org/sign-up-christmas-decorations-fund/

All who have given in memory of loved ones will be listed in our Christmas Eve bulletin. Any money remaining will be used for our Flower Fund throughout the year. The Flower Committee will purchase only enough flowers and greens to decorate the Sanctuary and not for each contributor.

We suggest that your contribution be \$70. Checks should be made payable to Lewinsville Presbyterian Church and annotated "Christmas Decoration Fund".

Forms and checks must be returned no later than Sunday, December 13.

NAME	 	
PHONE	 	
IN MEMORY OF		



ALTERNATIVE GIFTS - The Mission and Service Ministry Group is providing the opportunity to transform a donation into a Christmas gift through the Alternative Gift program during the season of Advent. This is a wonderful and easy way to honor loved ones, friends, teachers, neighbors, service providers and others on your Christmas gift list and simultaneously provide a tax-deductible gift to support one or more Lewinsville mission projects. All that you need to do is (1) consider all of

the people you wish to honor in this meaningful way, (2) identify the organization(s) you wish to support with your charitable contribution, and (3) complete the Alternative Gifts Donation Form online. You may request beautiful ALTERNATIVE GIFT card(s) for the person(s) you are honoring. (We must receive your Alternative Gifts form no later than December 17th to mail you the donation cards requested). Your donation will be reflected on your year-end giving statement provided by Lewinsville Church. Go to

https://www.lewinsville.org/events/alternative-gifts-2020/ for more information and to participate!



Annual Summer Mission Project Bake Sale - The annual SMP Bake Sale has been reimagined to a more safe, socially distanced event - but the treats will be as delicious as ever! Offerings are limited to manage expectations and orders must be placed no later than Monday, December 14 to guarantee availability. Items will be available at our touchless pick-up area in the church parking lot on Sunday, December 20 anytime from 1:00-4:00pm or no-contact

delivery can be arranged if needed. All proceeds will be donated to the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate and others our Summer Mission Project teams have worked with over the last 30 years. We may not have been able to build anything in 2020, but our mission is alive and well! Order your goodies on-line at https://www.lewinsville.org/events/holiday-bake-sale/ or make a financial contribution – your generous support is appreciated either way. Contact Linda Bender (Ilbender1@gmail.com) or Ben Evans (bevans@lewinsville.org) with any questions.



CALLING ALL BAKERS! - To share the joy of Christmas with Chesterbrook Residences, the Deacons/Stephen Ministers are looking for donations of cookies. We are asking everyone to wear a mask while baking and to put 5 cookies in a zip lock bag. Cookies will be collected at the church **December 15-17**. Or contact Pastor Jen, jdunfee@lewinsville.org, who can arrange an alternate time or pick up. Our goal is 35 dozen! Please help the Deacon/Stephen Ministers reach their goal. Sign-up at

https://www.lewinsville.org/events/cookies-for-chesterbrook/ so the Deacons can track expected donations.