

Traditional Worship Order – 9:15 a.m.

December 23, 2018

4th Sunday of Advent

“The Overlooked
Christmas Character”

Matthew 1:18-25

GATHERING MUSIC “Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine” arr. Hayes

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Terri Pennington

Please fill out a Connection Card to place in the offering plate.

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

CENTERING MUSIC

Central Carillon

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Responsive

Leader: We have been looking for a sign.

People: Emmanuel – God is with us.

Leader: The time is near – can it be?

People: Let us come and see.

All: Let us open ourselves to the wonder of it all.

*OPENING HYMN

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!”

No. 211

*OPENING PRAYER

**We come this morning, tired from rushing around,
tired of trying to meet the demands and expectations of the season.**

Slow us down.

Help us to center our thoughts.

Restore in us a childlike wonder, and a belief that dreams really do come true.

We call on your name. Be with us and in us, Emmanuel. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Josh, Amy, Caroline, Ellie & Lila Barron

CELEBRATION OF CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

Let us greet and welcome those around us to the family of God.

ANTHEM

“Do You Hear What I Hear?”

Chancel Choir

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Josh Barron

Afterward, children three years old through the second grade may meet at the back of the sanctuary to leave for Children’s Church in Room 106.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER HYMN

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel”

No. 204

MORNING PRAYER

Rev. George Purnell

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Unison

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

MESSAGE

“The Overlooked Christmas Character”
Matthew 1:18-25

Rev. George Purnell

WORSHIPING THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY

Central Carillon

*THE DOXOLOGY

No. 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. George Purnell

*SENDING HYMN

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

No. 230

*SENDING FORTH

Rev. George Purnell

POSTLUDE

“Watchman, Tell Us of the Night”

arr. Leatherman

EXIT TO SERVE