

HYMN 2095 Black Hymnal

**“Star-Child”**

**HANGING GARLANDS**

READER

*In ancient times the cedar was known as the tree of royalty. So the tree reminds us of the coming of the Christ child, sent by God to save us and all of humanity. Holly and Ivy symbolize Christ's Passion. The holly's red reminds us of the shedding of Christ's blood and its prickly leaves represent the crown of thorns he would wear. Ivy is a symbol of our human weakness, made strong in the presence of Christ.*

**HANGING HOLLY AND IVY**

HYMN screen

**“O Christmas Tree”**

HYMN 242 Red Hymnal

**“Love Came Down at Christmas”**

SCRIPTURE John 1:1-5, 9-14 (NIV)

**LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE – HOPE**

Shane, Jennifer, Presleyann, Gracelyn, Memphis Saylor

HYMN 2090 Black Hymnal

**“Advent Song”**

verse 1

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE**

HYMN 206 Red Hymnal

**“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”**

READER

*God Sent Jesus into our world to save us, heal us, redeem us. It is our calling to go into the world and offer people Christ so that they might experience the same.*

CLOSING HYMN 251 Red Hymnal

**“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”**

POSTLUDE Carol Kirchmer

**“Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne”**

Words by Emily E.S. Elliott, Music by Timothy R. Matthews

# Salem at Worship

## Sunday, November 27, 2016



## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 am Sunday School  
[sum@sum.kscoxmail.com](mailto:sum@sum.kscoxmail.com)

10:00 am Worship Service  
(316) 283-3620

*If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to join our church family by talking with Pastor Ron at the church office, 283-3620.*

## God's People Gather

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

*(Please be sure to sign the attendance registration)*

*(Prayer cards are in attendance pad, you may fill out/place in the offering plate)*

WELCOME Liturgist

\*GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Ron Kite

PRELUDE Carol Kirchmer

### **“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

Words & Music from 13th Century Plain Song, Arr. by Tedd Smith

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Unison

**Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may celebrate aright the commemoration of the nativity, and may await with joy the coming in glory of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

\*OPENING PRAYER (based on Romans 13, Matthew 24) Liturgist

*Holy One, we wait and hope for your peace. We live in the promise of your love. As the days darken and the nights lengthen, light our way with your promised presence. Prepare us to celebrate your birth, and guide us to create your kingdom on earth. In hopeful expectation we pray. Amen.*

\*HYMN 213 Red Hymnal

### **“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”**

JOYS AND CONCERNS Pastor Ron Kite

PASTOR PRAYER Pastor Ron Kite

CHILDREN'S TIME Ashli Teel

### **“Jesus Loves the Little Children”**

OFFERING SENTENCES Liturgist

*Awesome, holy and loving God, we acknowledge that smiles and tears are both part of life. May these gifts of our offering help to bring smiles to your children around the world. May these gifts help to wipe away tears. We pray no one miss the joy and grace of this season.*

OFFERTORY Carol Kirchmer

### **“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”**

Words by Charles Wesley, Music by Rowland H. Prichard, Arr. by Carol Tornquist

\*OFFERING SONG 95 Red Hymnal

### **“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

\*OFFERING PRAYER Pastor Ron Kite

## THE HANGING OF THE GREENS

READER

*Bring cedar and holly, bring evergreens and a pine tree, hang wreaths and garlands.*

**ALL:**

**Make the church fragrant with the smell of living things and our holy play. In acts of hanging greens and listening to the words of prophets and seers let us make our hearts and this space a place of preparation for the One who comes to give us second birth. May the decorations we offer engage our senses during the days of Advent and enliven our praise and worship, in the name of the child of Bethlehem, our risen and coming savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

READER

*Like the evergreen that is everlasting, God's love for us is everlasting. Wreaths are shaped into circles to signify the everlasting reign of the Messiah. Their shape reminds us of a crown, a crown for our King; as well as reminding us of the crown of thorns the Messiah would wear for us.*

## HANGING WREATHS

HYMN 327 Red Hymnal

### **“Crown Him with Many Crowns”**

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 61:1-3 (NIV)

READER

*Evergreen was associated with healing in the ancient world, especially the mistletoe. Mistletoe was also a sign of peace, originally hung over an area where enemies would meet, putting down their arms under the mistletoe. We decorate with garland as a reminder our prince of peace comes and we may dwell in the healing presence of Christ our Lord.*