



9 DECEMBER 2018



**TO ALL** WHO ARE SPIRITUALLY WEAK & SEEK REST, WHO MOURN & LONG FOR COMFORT  
WHO STRUGGLE & DESIRE VICTORY, WHO SIN & NEED A SAVIOR,  
WHO ARE STRANGERS & WANT FELLOWSHIP,  
WHO HUNGER & THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND TO WHOSEVER WILL COME,  
**THIS CHURCH OPENS WIDE HER DOORS & OFFERS WELCOME**  
IN THE NAME OF THE **LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

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*Our Worship and Celebration*  
*(Second Sunday of Advent)*

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*God Welcomes Us*

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**GATHERING HYMN**

v.1 - Hymn #79

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!

One: The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Rev. Rusty Mosley*

**PRELUDE**

*“Preparation for the King”*

- Corelli

(“✠” please stand if you are able.)

✠ **HYMN**

*“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”*

Hymn #83

✠ **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The Lord whom you seek shall suddenly come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight. Behold, he is coming. Rejoice greatly!  
Shout in triumph!

People: **Our King is coming; the righteous Savior, who shall speak peace to the nations.**

✠ **PRAYER OF ADORATION**

✠ **HYMN**

*“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

vs. 1-3 Hymn #107

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

The Advent Candle of Peace

*The McNabb Family*

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*God Cleanses Us*

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**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

It is Advent. It is the season in which we prepare our hearts to welcome Christ, who is the bringer of all peace. We confess to you the ways in which we block the peace of Christ in our lives. The rushing and scurrying to get things done, the worry about the little details, the financial burdens we put on ourselves, the impatience and irritability we feel and take out on one another. Though we make ourselves less than peaceful at this time of the year, your peace is always there for us. Help us to be more peaceful so that we may spread Christ’s peace and love to others. Hear us now as we lift our personal confessions to you . . .

*(Silent Confession)*

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

✠ **HYMN OF ASSURANCE**

*“Gloria Patri”*

Hymn # 705

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.

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# God Strengthens Us through His Word and Sacrament

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## FIRST READING

**Matthew 1:1, 5b** (p. 807)

<sup>1</sup> The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.  
... and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth,

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## ANTHEM

*"All Praise to Thee"*

- Elaine Hagenberg

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

## SECOND READING

**Ruth 1:8-17; 4:13-17** (p.222)

<sup>8</sup> But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. <sup>9</sup> The LORD grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!" Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. <sup>10</sup> And they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." <sup>11</sup> But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? <sup>12</sup> Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, <sup>13</sup> would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the LORD has gone out against me." <sup>14</sup> Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

<sup>15</sup> And she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." <sup>16</sup> But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. <sup>17</sup> Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you."

... **4:13** So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. And he went in to her, and the LORD gave her conception, and she bore a son. <sup>14</sup> Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without a redeemer, and may his name be renowned in Israel! <sup>15</sup> He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has given birth to him." <sup>16</sup> Then Naomi took the child and laid him on her lap and became his nurse. <sup>17</sup> And the women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi." They named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

One: The Word of the Lord.  
All: **Thanks be to God.**

## **SERMON**

### **The Mothers of Jesus - Part 2 “Ruth”**

*Rev. Rusty Mosley*

#### **Notes:**

1. Naomi’s loss:
2. Ruth’s courage:
3. The return to Israel:
4. Practical implications:
  - a. The transforming power of friendship:
  - b. God is in the mundane:
  - c. The Gospel destroys tradition snobbery:
5. How does Ruth point us to Christmas?

✠ **The 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.

*(\*the true Christian church of all times and places)*

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*God Sends Us*

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**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**All:** 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

**MINISTRY OF MERCY—TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY**

*"Come, O Wondrous Child"*

- Handel

✠ **DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
    praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
    praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

✦ **BENEDICTION**

✦ **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

v. 4 Hymn #107

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today!  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

**POSTLUDE**

***“The Advent of Our God”***

- Broughton

*(Please be seated during the postlude to reflect on the worship service, consider God’s Word, and prepare your response as you follow Christ’s light into the world.)*

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**Announcements:**

- ◇ Our Christmas Program entitled "Jesus, Son of the Promise" will be held December 11, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Invite a friend to join us for this wonderful time of celebration!
- ◇ Please sign up to volunteer to pack backpacks on Wednesdays. If you have questions see Ken Hunter.
- ◇ It is time to update our directory! Email or call the office about any corrections or mistakes.

**Prayer Concerns:**

Margaret Baker, friend of Sheila Rupert; Ilona Beczo; Cody Burnell, Bill Conner; Stuart Dornblaser, brother-in-law of Ken Hunter; Jeannene Ellis, sister-in-law of Herman and Betty Ellis; Jimmy and Nancy Higgins; Steve Hoffman, friend of Nancy Davis with cancer and transplant need; Dub Holt; Charlie Jones, friend of Annette Sackhoff; Charles Jordan; Mark Kapera, friend of Kevin Tucker; Martha Lierley; Ann McCarron, sister of Rick McCarron; Walter Mosley, brother of Rusty Mosley; Ann Moss, mother of Debbie McConkie; Gene Murphy, father of Annette Sackhoff.

## PRAYERS OF MEDITATION:

### PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR THE TRUTH

Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

### PRAYER OF BELIEF

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying our debt, bearing our punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

### PRAYER FOR THOSE STRUGGLING WITH SIN

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all our need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. Amen.

### PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism, and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.



#### STAFF:

**Pastor:** Richard H. (Rusty) Mosley, ph. 501.339.9300  
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**Lay Pastor:** Joe Pruett, ph. 501.733.1650  
**Organist:** Lyle Rupert  
**Choir Director/Pianist:** Eloise Stowe

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#### OUR DENOMINATION:



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