



East Valley Reformed Church

Pastor Bill Van Herk

December 2, 2018

To Our Visitors

Thank you for joining us for this celebration of worship! It is our hope that you find the service uplifting and that you will come again. Please join us for coffee and fellowship after the service.

Our Mission Statement

"Helping each other follow Jesus Christ."

Our Vision Statement

"To be people who delight in worshipping Jesus, seek to know him more and are being shaped by God to be a redemptive presence in our community through proclaiming the gospel, feeding the hungry and nurturing one another in love."

Elders/Committee

Connie Faulkner: Chair of Education/Vice President

Butch Smedema: Chair of Worship

Idell Dunn: Chair of Fellowship

Don Linder: Chair of Outreach Frank Meneses: Life Church

Deacons/Committee

Claudia King: Education Team

Lorrie Zeutenhorst: Worship Team

John Barnes: Fellowship Team

Blair Bickel: Outreach Team

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East Valley Reformed Church

Pastor Bill Van Herk

December 2, 2018 First Sunday of Advent

The Approach to God

Gathering Song

Welcome and Announcements

Preparation for Worship

Votum

Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn # 123 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Prayer of Confession *Unison*

While we ask, Lord, for the most meaningful Advent season ever, we sadly confess having done so little with so much. Forgive us, Lord, for not bending the knee, for not reading your Word, for not searching our hearts, for not facing our sins.

Forgive us according to your tender mercies, O God! Grant that when Christmas morning breaks for us this year, we may have a fresh sense of your presence and a renewed resolve to live to the praise of Christ's glory. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (included in Advent reading)

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Reader 1: On this first Sunday of Advent, as we wrestle with many wants, we hear these words from Isaiah 40.

Reader 2 "Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.

Reader 1: "A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.'"

Reader 2: We have many wants, but what we need is you, God. We need the light of Christ to come to us—to comfort and save us from our sin. (Light the first candle)

Reader 1 "In Jesus Christ you are forgiven"

The Word of God in Sacrament and Proclamation

Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 33:14-16 Wyatt Catron

*Songs of Praise (Prayer cards will be gathered now)

(Children are released to Kidz Church)

New Testament Lesson

Luke 21:25-36

Sermon :

"Promises Kept"

Prayer for Blessing Song of Response

The Prayers of the People (*Responsive*)

God of all creation, full of love and abounding in mercy;

May the whole earth be filled with your glory.

Lord, bless and guide all ministers of your church;

Clothe them in righteousness and grant them wisdom.

Direct the leaders of our government;

That they may act in accordance with your kingdom.

Enlarge our own hearts, O Lord,

To love the things that you love

May we proclaim your light

In every place where there is darkness.

May we proclaim your Holy Name

In every aspect of our lives.

We pray for those in sickness, grief, persecution, bondage, fear, or loneliness, and for all our own needs;

Lord, have mercy.

We pray for our morning requests:

To God be all honor and glory, dominion and power, now and forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

The Gifts of God's People

Offertory

*Doxology

*Apostle's Creed

*Peace: The Peace of Christ be with you. And also with you

Meaning of the Sacrament

Invitation

Communion Prayer

Communion

The Response to God

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

*Closing Hymn #47 verses 1&4 "God Will Take Care of You"

*Benediction and *Closing Song