

First Presbyterian Church of Sandpoint, Idaho

December 21, 2025, 11:00 a.m., Fourth Sunday of Advent

*Catherine Lyle, Pastor; Annie Welle, Piano; Dana Stockman, Choir Director
Kirsten Thompson, Worship Leader; Cynthia Dalsing & Judy Labrie, Ushers
Don Helander, Livestream*

PRELUDE MUSIC, LIVESTREAM BEGINS

LIGHT THE CHRIST CANDLE, WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS

RING THE BELL, MOMENT OF SILENCE

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Judy Labrie

HYMN #53 “What Child Is This” (*Chorus*) (*Judy come forward to candles*)

We light this candle of Love for those who need it most.

For all who feel they are on the outskirts of love.

For all who know the loss of a love.

For all who are rejected because of who they are.

Our question for today at the scene of the nativity is this: “How will we make sacrificial love our aim in our time?”

What child IS this? This, this, is the babe who was swaddled in love and wraps us all in love forever.

*OPENING HYMN #9 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

*RESPONSIVE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.** Thanks be to God!

*SUNG RESPONSE #577 “Glory Be to the Father”

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

SCRIPTURE READINGS 1 Corinthians 13, Matthew 1:18-25

CHILDREN’S MOMENT *Mooseltoe* by Margie Palatini

WORDS OF WITNESS “This, this is the one ‘Enthroned by Love’ who invites us into more love than we thought was possible.”

Catherine Lyle, Pastor

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #376 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY Lord in your mercy... **hear our prayer.**

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.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY #593 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen. Amen....

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN #2223 “They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love” (*Sing the Faith*)

*CHARGE, BENEDICTION, FOLLOW THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

We are a congregation of people

Loving, living, learning the joy of faith.

POSTLUDE, LIVESTREAM CONCLUDES

WORDS TO SONGS

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What Child Is This?

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

(Refrain)

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. *(Refrain)*

O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace. *(Refrain)*

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven to earth come down,
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit,
Let us find the promised rest;
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver,
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then, Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity
May one day be restored:

(Refrain)

And they'll know we are Christians
By our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand,
We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand,
And together we'll spread the news
That God is in our land: *(Refrain)*

We will work with each other,
We will work side by side,
We will work with each other,
We will work side by side,
And we'll guard human dignity
And save human pride: *(Refrain)*

All praise to the Father,
From whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus,
God's only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit,
Who makes us one: *(Refrain)*

