

Service of Worship

**Preparing for worship**—*For our spiritual edification and for the benefit of one another, let us spend the time before worship in silent preparation, meditation, and prayer, reading Scripture and familiarizing ourselves with today's Scripture readings, prayers, and hymns.*

Leader: The Lord be with you!  
**People: The Lord bless you!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

PRELUDE

God Calls Us

GREETING  
Leader: Christ is born!  
**People: Glorify Him!**  
Leader: O Lord, open our lips!  
**People: That our mouths may show forth Your praise!**  
Leader: Make haste, O God, to deliver us!  
**People: Make haste to help us, O Lord!**

† INTROIT O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O come, Thou Root of Jesse's tree, An ensign of Thy people be;  
Before Thee rulers silent fall; All peoples on Thy mercy call.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, And be Thyself our King of Peace.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

† CALL TO WORSHIP Isaiah 60:1-3

† PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

† HYMN OF APPROACH # 193 – Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

God Cleanses Us

CONFESSION OF SIN (Let those who are able kneel) Psalm 51:1-15  
Leader: Let us humbly kneel and confess our sins to Almighty God:  
**People: Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness: according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight—that You may be found just when You speak, and blameless when You judge. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, and in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean; wash me and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me hear joy and gladness, that the bones You have broken may rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to**

**me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your generous Spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall be converted to You. My tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Your praise.**

Leader: Arise, and hear the good news!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Luke 2:10-11; Galatians 4:4-5

Leader: Brothers and sisters, in the incarnate and risen Christ, God has promised that when we know him, even from the least of us to the greatest, he will remember our sins no more. So upon the authority of God's Word, take comfort that your sins are forgiven and your lives are rescued in our Lord Jesus Christ and His victory over the grave. Believe this, and rejoice!



Leader: Lift up your hearts!  
**People: We lift them up to the Lord!**  
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!  
**People: It is proper and right to do so.**

† HYMN OF ASSURANCE AND PRAISE # 207 – Good Christian Men, Rejoice

God Consecrates Us

LESSON #1 Genesis 3:8-15  
*God tells Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that the Seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head.*

HYMN OF RESPONSE # 196 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LESSON #2 Isaiah 9:2-7  
*Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by the Prophet Isaiah.*

HYMN OF RESPONSE # 233 To Us a Child of Hope Is Born

LESSON #3 Isaiah 11:1-9  
*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.*

HYMN OF RESPONSE # 221 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

LESSON #4 Micah 5:2-5  
*The birthplace of the Savior and the salvation that He will bring to his people is foretold.*

HYMN OF RESPONSE # 201 O Little Town of Bethlehem

LESSON #5 Luke 1:26-38  
*The angel Gabriel tells the virgin Mary of God's favor.*

HYMN OF RESPONSE # 203 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

LESSON #6 Luke 2:1-7  
*Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*

HYMN OF RESPONSE # 225 Once in Royal David's City

LESSON #7 Luke 2:8-20  
*The Shepherds go to the manger.*

HYMN OF RESPONSE # 2 14 Angels We Have Heard on High

LESSON #8 Psalm 37:3-7  
*We can rest in the Lord.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

HOMILY Trust, Delight, Commit, Rest  
Elder Bill Grete

† HYMN OF RESPONSE # 208 O Come, All Ye Faithful

God Communes With Us

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!  
**People: And His mercy endures forever!**

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S TABLE  
Passing of the Bread # 213 – What Child is This  
Passing of the Wine # 162 – Of the Father's Love Begotten

Leader: The Body and Blood of our Lord strengthen and preserve you steadfast in the true faith until life everlasting, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen!**

† GLORIA PATRI # 735

God Commissions Us

† BENEDICTION

May He Who by His incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, grant you the fullness of peace and goodwill: And now may the Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and grant you peace. Amen!

‡ DOXOLOGY

† HYMN OF PRAISE AND DISMISSAL #195 – Joy to the World! The Lord is Come

† The congregation will please stand  
‡ With hands uplifted

## This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. It features approximately 28 evenly spaced horizontal blue or grey lines across its entire width, providing a template for handwriting practice or general note-taking. The margins are consistent on all sides.

- Second Sunday Lunch
  - January 11

- Today
  - B. Willoughbys (Worship)
- Next Week
  - Brantleys (Sunday School)
  - Rose Ann Davis & Libby Grete (Worship)

- We will have a night of Christmas caroling at the Gretes' house tonight at 5:30.



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS  
DECEMBER 21, 2014**

**9:00 AM** Sunday School and **10:30 AM** Worship

*Recordings of this morning's service may be downloaded  
from the church's website located at [ipclinton.org](http://ipclinton.org).  
Previous services and events are also available.*