For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son so that anyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 (TLB)

PRE-SERVICE HYMN SING

#210 All Earth Is Waiting to See the Promised One

#214 Savior of the Nations Come

#168 At the Name of Jesus

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE

HISTORY MOMENT & VIDEO

ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING

The Adkins Family

SCRIPTURE Matthew 1:18-21 (RSV)

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; 19 and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. 20 But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; 21 she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

HYMN

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (vs. 1)

211

OPENING PRAYER

Lord God, only you can see into my heart and know that under all the busy-ness of my life, there is a deep longing to make this Advent one that welcomes you more deeply into my own life. Every word in scripture points to the gift of hope that we have because of your son, Jesus. The Christmas story wasn't the beginning of that message of hope because the old testament is full of glimpses of your plan to redeem your people and restore them into a relationship with you, but we are able to truly begin to see and understand just how great your love for us is when we read the story of Jesus' birth in scripture. Nothing is too difficult, too messy, or too dirty for you. Make yourself known to us in our lives right where we walk. Help us to see that you are with us. We pray this in the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

CHILDRENS' MOMENT

SERMON "Salvation, Who Needs It?" Rev. Neyda Albarran

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8 -11 (NRSV)

GIVING MUSIC

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DOXOLOGY 95

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING HYMN "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" 196

BENEDICTION & POSTLUDE