





**Our spirits by your advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel has come our darkness to dispel**  
*(The Lighting of the Candle of the Dayspring from the Christ Candle)*

Leader: Tonight we come to rejoice that in Emmanuel God's light divine  
has shone into all of the darkness of this world,

**People: and that all that darkness has not been able to  
extinguish it.**

**All Sing: No. 9**

*Veni Emmanuel*

**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.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel has come our darkness to dispel.**  
*(The Lighting of the Candle of the Desire of Nations from the Christ Candle)*

Leader: Tonight we come to rejoice that in Emmanuel, God has given to  
us the gift of the Prince of Peace,

**People: who is still seeking to bring heaven's peace to this  
world.**

Leader: Tonight we come again to hear the angel's message of peace on  
earth,

**People: as we come to adore Him, who is Emmanuel, Christ  
the Lord.**

**\* CAROL OF ADORATION No. 41**

*Adestes Fidelis*

**“O Come, All Ye Faithful”**

**LITANY OF CONFESSION**

Leader: In the gift of Jesus you have come to us as Emmanuel, O God, to  
assure us that you will always be with us.

**Unison: For where we have failed to acknowledge your**

**presence with us at all times and in all places,  
Emmanuel, please forgive us.**

Leader: In the gift of Jesus you have come to share your wisdom with us, oh God, and to show us how you would have us to live as your children.

**Unison: For where we have felt that our wisdom is wiser than yours, and we have refused to follow your guidelines for life, please forgive us, O Lord, our Emmanuel.**

Leader: In the gift of Jesus, you have come to us, O God, as a branch from the Root of Jesse, and as the Key of David.

**Unison: For where we have failed to appreciate your faithfulness to your promises, O Emmanuel, please forgive us.**

Leader: In the gift of Jesus, you have brought to us your light divine, O God.

**Unison: For all of those times when we have refused to walk in your light, please forgive us, O Lord our Emmanuel.**

Leader: In the gift of Jesus, you have given to this world the One who should be the desire of every nation bringing to all people your heavenly peace, O God.

**Unison: For our own failure to desire your ways of peace in Jesus, the Prince of Peace, please forgive, O God.**

Leader: As we continue to celebrate the birth of the One whom you have sent to be our Redeemer, O God,

**Unison: Remind us again of the joy and peace you desire to bring to the lives of all who will claim him as their Redeemer.**

## **PERSONAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION IN SILENCE**

### **SUNG PRAYER SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

*Truro*

**Redeemer, sent from heaven above  
To fill the world with heaven's love**

Come to us now, O living way,  
And lead us to God's promised day.

**THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\* SUNG RESPONSE OF DEDICATION**

*Truro*

Redeemer, come, I open wide my heart to you, here, Lord abide  
Let me your inner presence feel your grace and love in me reveal.

**TO HEAR AND REFLECT ON GOD'S WORD . . .**

**GOD GIVES THE PROMISE OF EMMANUEL**

**Isaiah 9: 2-7**

**Pew Bible Page 819-20 OT**

**The Response:** Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**People:** Thanks be to God!

**CAROL OF REJOICING No. 28**

**“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”**

**LUKE TELLS OF THE BIRTH OF EMMANUEL**

**Luke 2: 1-20**

**Pew Bible Page 71-72 NT**

**The Response:** Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**People:** Thanks be to God!

**SERMON**

**“Good News and Great Joy”**

**Rev. Dr. Ted Land**

**TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**AND TO CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER.....**

**\* CAROL OF THE PRESENCE OF JESUS OUR EMMANUEL No. 25**

**“Away in a Manger”**

***Mueller***

**\* INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

**\* THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

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 right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is indeed right and our duty and delight to give you thanks and praise....the confidence to pray to you as he taught us

**Unison: 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.**

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*(Please hold the bread and the cup until all have been served.)*

## PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD AND FOR OURSELVES

### TO SHARE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST . . .

#### SHARING OF THE LIGHT OF CHRIST, OUR EMMANUEL

*(The pastor will light a candle from the Christ Candle and light the candles of the elders, who will then light the candles of the first person on each aisle. Light will then be passed from worshiper to worshiper. The lighted candle should remain upright and the unlighted candle is tipped to the lighted candle.)*

#### \* CAROL OF DEDICATION No. 60

*Stille Nacht*

*(the candle is held close to the chest)*

1. **Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,  
Round yon virgin mother and child!  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.**

*(the candle is extended outward)*

**2. Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake, at the sight,  
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing: “Alleluia;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.”**

*(the candle is extended upward)*

**3. Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

**\* THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Leader: Let us look at the light of our candles, and let us remember that  
in Jesus God has come to us as our Lord Emmanuel.

**Unison: Jesus is our assurance that God is with us,**

Leader: and that God will never leave or forsake us,

**Unison: and that nothing in life or in death can separate us  
from God’s love.**

Leader: Let us go forth into the darkness of this night knowing that God  
is with us.

**Unison: Let us go forth into the darkness of every day and  
every night knowing that God will be with us.**

Leader: Let us go forth from this place to share the good news that Jesus  
has been born.

**Unison: Emmanuel has come! God is with us!**

**\* SHARING GOD’S GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS**

*(Please extinguish your candle, and then please take it with you to the receptacles in  
the narthex or the hallway as you leave. As you leave, please greet those around  
you, as we share together the good news of Jesus, our Lord Emmanuel, God with us.)*

**\* ORGAN POSTLUDE**

**\* All who can do so comfortably will stand**

**Welcome to Worship at the First Presbyterian Church** on this Holy Night. We invite you  
to worship with us on future occasions. Every Sunday, we have Sunday School for all ages at  
9:45 a.m. and our Worship Service at 11 a.m.

**All who seek to love and serve the One who has come as Emmanuel, God with us,** and who are members of any Christian Church, are invited to share in the meal he has given us as a way of remembering him. According to the tradition of this congregation, we will hold the bread and the cup in order that we might eat and drink together when we are invited to do so. You are encouraged to hold the bread with the napkin provided as you break off your piece.

### ***SYMBOLISM OF THE LIGHTS***

*The significance of the Candlelight Service is twofold.*

***First,** in the distribution of the lights, we see dramatized before us the spreading of the Gospel Message and the growth of the church through the centuries. The pastor's candle is symbolic of Christ, the living Word, and is an extension of the Christ Candle on the Advent wreath. The elders who carry the light to the congregation represent the Apostles whom Christ sent out to spread that Word and draw the world to Him. The church has grown because men and women and young people who have heard the Good News have been faithful in telling someone else about it, and this is symbolized by passing the light to the person beside you. The elders will light the candle closest to the aisle. As each candle bursts into flame and the sanctuary gradually brightens, we catch the significance of Jesus' statement that we are the "light of the world," and that we should spread this light to the "very ends of the world."*

***Secondly,** we find significance in the lights during the singing of the carol of dedication. During the singing of the first verse, we hold our lights close as we rededicate ourselves to Christ. As we sing the second verse, we hold the candle out in front of us as we rededicate our homes and families once again to him. During the last verse, we hold our candles high as we rededicate our part of His church here to the task of taking the Gospel Light to every corner of the earth.*

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Ted Land  
Elder of the month: Scott Yant  
Director of Music: Lawrence R. Nelson  
Organist: Stanley Littleton  
Administrative Assistant: Valerie Marlow  
Custodian: Melissa Krebeck  
Nursery Assistants: Mary and Branham Skipper

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Serving God with Faith, Hope and Love since 1835**  
**Corner of Jefferson and Clinton Streets, Marianna, Florida**  
**(850) 526-2430**  
**website: [www.firstpresmarianna.org](http://www.firstpresmarianna.org)**  
**E-Mail: [firstpresmarianna@earthlink.net](mailto:firstpresmarianna@earthlink.net)**