

*As With Gladness Men Of Old*

Hymn #202

As with gladness men of old  
Did the guiding star behold,  
As with joy they hailed its light,  
Leading onward beaming bright,  
So most gracious Lord, may we  
Evermore be led to Thee.

As with joyful steps they sped  
To that lowly manger bed,  
There to bend the knee before  
Him whom heaven and earth adore,  
So may we with willing feet  
Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare  
At that manger rude and bare,  
So may we with holy joy,  
Pure and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ to Thee our heavenly King.

Holy Jesus, every day  
Keep us in the narrow way;  
And when earthly things are past,  
Bring our ransomed souls at last  
Where they need no star to guide,  
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

Village Christian Preschool Children

**ADVENT CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Cindy Liggett

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(Unison Reading)*

Kendall Hoopes

Lord, we should be singing and raising the rafters because our salvation is complete! Your judgments against us have been reversed. You offer us the gift of a new heart, with you at the very center, fending off the powers of evil. We confess that we don't hear this Good News. We do not see your presence around us. We are unhappy with our lives and long for the gifts that always seem greater under others' trees. Forgive us, Lord, for our unwillingness to accept your Good News as sufficient for all of our needs. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**~~WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD~~**

**PASTORAL PRAYERS, SILENT PRAYERS AND LORD'S PRAYER**

*The Lord's 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.

**PRESENTATION OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS**

**Offertory Prayer Offering**  
**Offertory**

Choir

**~~WE MEET GOD THROUGH THE WORD~~**

*Message: "God With Us Brings Joy"*

Pastor Jeff Ogden

**WORSHIP SONG**

*\*Joy To The World*

Hymn #171

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:  
Let earth receive her King,  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns:  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *(Please join hands with the people next to you.)*

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Hymn #169 V. 3

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
And order all things far and nigh;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And cause us in her ways to go.

*Chorus* Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel,  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

**USHERS**

Keith & Marji Hansen

**WORSHIP ASSISTANT**

Kendall Hoopes

**ADVENT CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Cindy Liggett

*\*Those who are able will please stand.*

*Thank you for silencing your cell phones during worship*

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*In Our Prayers:* Doug Baker - upcoming knee surgery; Roland Schumann - healing; Tom & Lili Arpino - loss of their son Brandon; Advent Season; Cheryl & Don's Hollingsworth grandson - healing; homeless; travel mercies; those affected by the fires in California.

*A THOUGHT FROM CHRISTIANS PAST... "I coined the word 'eucatastrophe': the sudden happy turn in a story which pierces you with a joy that brings tears ...the Resurrection was the greatest 'eucatastrophe' possible...and produces that essential emotion: Christian joy which produces tears because it is qualitatively so like sorrow, because it comes from those places where Joy and Sorrow are at one."*  
J. R. R. Tolkien

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS.** Including everyone who helped with the packing and distribution of the food boxes. Thanks for being the hands and feet of Jesus!

**THANK YOU FOR SHOPPING AT OUR THRIFT SHOP.** Thank you to everyone who shopped on our special open house day on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and other days of the year. It was a success and all proceeds go to fund local, national, and international missions.

**VILLAGE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL** will be singing in church today during the 10:00 a.m. service.

**JOIN US** for fellowship, coffee, juice, and good things to eat in the Fireside Room following the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Come and meet someone you've never met before!

**SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SERVICES.** The Candlelight Christmas Eve Services are being celebrated Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. and at 7:00 p.m. These services will include the singing of Christmas carols, special music by our choir, and a Christmas message by Pastor Jeff, and the lighting of candles during the last song.

**ADVENT DEVOTIONALS.** Our Advent devotional is available on the counter in the Narthex. Pick one up today!

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS.** Each year we look forward to the beauty the poinsettia flowers bring to our Sanctuary during this Advent/Christmas season. If you would like to purchase a plant through our church and dedicate it in celebration of a special occasion or person, or in memory of a loved one, forms are available on the Narthex Counters. The cost of each plant is \$10.00 and you may take them home after the last Christmas Eve service. Please make your check out to The Village Church and designate "poinsettia" on the memo line.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED.** We are seeking volunteers to teach Sunday school. Mary Gilbert the Christian Education Director has everything already prepared - the lesson, craft, and all of the handouts - and sets up the room; all you have to do is come and lead the class! Our classes are divided by age: PreK thru Kindergarten and Elementary (grades 1-5). Please pray about God touching your heart to help with this very important ministry. This is a great opportunity to serve. If you would like to volunteer please contact Mary at [mgilbert@thevillagechurchnv.org](mailto:mgilbert@thevillagechurchnv.org).

**2019 VILLAGE CHURCH ADULT MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITIES:**  
Samaritan's Purse Mission Trip: Huston, Texas – February 24<sup>th</sup>- March 2<sup>nd</sup>  
YouthCompass Mission Trip: Romania – April 19<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>  
Belize Dental Mission Trip: Seine Bight, Belize – May 17<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>  
Please contact the church office if you are interested in learning more info.

**PRESCHOOL INFO:** The preschool will be closed from Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> through Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**UNABLE TO ATTEND A WORSHIP SERVICE?** Pastor Jeff's Sunday sermon is recorded each Sunday. Check out our website at <http://www.thevillagechurchnv.org/sermons/> to hear the sermon you missed.

**SUNDAY TRANSPORTATION NEEDS?** Do you need a ride to church on Sundays? If so, please let our church office know at 775.831.0784.

**CONNECT WITH OUR WORSHIP COMMUNITY.** The blue Connect Cards in the pew racks in front of you are a great way to communicate with us. Use a card to let us know if you have a change in your contact information, have a prayer request, or want to connect with Pastor Jeff or various ministries within our church. Also, if you would like to be included in our weekly e-mail "blast," just share your email address with us and check the box on the card to be included.



