

Sunday Morning Worship

December 6, 2020

PREPARATION

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

PRAISE

Call to Worship

Hymn *Lift Up Your Heads*

Advent Reading..... John 1:1-18

LOVE Revealed to Give Life

Hymn..... *What Child Is This?*

RENEWAL

Worship through Giving

Missionary Highlight: Josh & Alison, outreach and education in
the Middle East

Congregational Prayer..... Pat Quinn

PROCLAMATION

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon Kevin Phipps

"Christ's Advent" ~ 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

RESPONSE

Hymn..... *Immanuel (From the Squalor of a Borrowed Stable)*

Benediction

NEW TO URC?

SCAN FOR MORE INFO



<http://urchur.ch/newtourc>

EVENING SERVICE

6:00 pm

Fellowship Hall (masks encouraged)
Sanctuary (masks required)

Please join us for our monthly
Prayer Meeting

In-person only

SIGN UP FOR OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



<https://urchur.ch/newsletterurc>

Upcoming Events

THIS WEEK & UPCOMING:

12/6	Sunday Services
12/7	Women's Christmas Tea (Virtual)
12/8	Tuesday Morning Prayer, 7-7:30am (Google Hangouts)
12/9	DIG (on Zoom)
12/20.....	Christmas Sunday
12/24.....	Christmas Eve services

URC's Fellowship Program Introducing Leo Meng



Where did you grow up?

I was born in China, and grew up in a relatively big city named Harbin in the Northeastern part of China. It is famous for the annual festival of ice sculpture which means it is cold in winter, and might be colder than East Lansing I will figure out this part soon.

Did you or any in your family have any faith growing up?

I grew up as an atheist in a non-Christian family. But thank God, a few years after my conversion, my mom finally became a believer in 2016.

How did you become a Christian?

Since I grew up as an atheist in China in a non-Christian family, my early goal in life was to pursue success, fame, and wealth. As a university sophomore, Jeremy Lin's testimony inspired me to think about Christianity for the very first time. Then an American teacher named Jim and a student missionary named Garrett helped answer a lot of my hard questions about the faith, and I finally decided to follow Jesus as Lord and Savior on March 4th, 2012. After that, I began attending Bible studies and the university fellowship, sharing the gospel with my friends and family, and praying regularly by myself and with other believers. I quickly read through the New Testament and also other spiritual books. I became more and more sensitive to my sins and regularly practiced confession and repentance. In short, God became the center of my thinking, my plans, and my life.

You served for one summer as an intern for a family church in China. What did you learn through that experience?

Since I came to know Christ while studying in a university in China and grew my faith in a university fellowship, I had never served a house church in China before last summer. The first thing that I have learned is there is a great need in China especially for the family churches, such as pastors, church planters, house seminary professors, etc. The second thing that I have learned is persecution is real in China. Two days before I flew to the church where I served, I received a phone call from the senior pastor. He told me that I could choose to not come because the church was noticed by the police office a week before I was supposed to come, and the church had changed the location last time. If I chose to come, there might be a chance that I would be detained from coming back to the U.S. to finishing my seminary. I ultimately decided to go regardless of any circumstances. I knew I did so not because of me, but the Lord gave me the peace in my heart. And praise the Lord, I was safe while serving the church last summer.

How do you think the pastoral fellowship here at URC can help you as you prepare for your next season of life and ministry?

First, URC is a welcoming and generous church which I already felt at home when I visited URC a few weeks ago. Second, Pastor Jason is known for teaching pastoral ministry and training young gospel workers. Third, the abundant ministry resources of URC can help me achieve my future ministry goals.