



Welcome to the Worship of God

Sunday, November 27, 2022 – First Sunday of Advent

Please silence or turn off any mobile devices or alarms before service begins. Thank you!

✠ *Please stand as you are able, in body or in spirit.*

UMH = blue hymnal; FWS = black hymnal

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

✠ Lighting of the Advent Candle – The Candle of Hope

As the nights grow longer, we see an echo of our uncertainty as we walk through a life filled with unknowns.

As we look around at the horrors of the world, we fear what the future may hold, and sometimes we find ourselves lost in despair.

Yet, with the prophets of old, we hope for a time when wars shall cease, justice will roll down like waters, and the hungry will be filled with good things.

As we light the candle of hope, O God, we pray that your light would shine amidst our uncertainty and despair, that we might catch a glimpse of your presence beside us even in those moments we feel most lost and alone.

✠ Opening Hymn

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

UMH #196

Prayer of Confession

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

(from Luke 1:50, 55)

Hear the good news:

The mercy of God comes upon all who are faithful, from generation to generation, in keeping with the divine promise to our ancestors in faith, to Abraham and Sarah, and to all their descendants.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

✠ Passing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

You are invited to greet one another and share signs of peace as you feel comfortable.

Gloria

UMH #72, sing twice

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo; gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Children's Moment

The children are invited to join our Christian Ed director, Miss Christine McGinnis, for Sunday School downstairs or return to their pews.

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Pew Bible p. 836

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Hope"

Rev. Rachel Stuart

Reflection Hymn

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

UMH #206

Prayers of the People

For you, O Lord, we wait— **O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

And now, with the confidence of the children of God, let us pray:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Special Music and Offering

✠ Doxology

to the tune of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

All praise to God the Anointer be; all praise, eternal Christ, to thee;

All glory to the heav'nly Dove: one God, whose endless Name is Love.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

✠ Prayer of Dedication and Consecration

A Time for Healing

(Psalm 103:1-5)

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all the benefits of God,

who forgives all our sins, and heals all our diseases,

who redeems our lives from the pit, and crowns us with covenant love and mercy,

who satisfies us with good as long as we live so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's.

SENDING FORTH

✠ Closing Hymn

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

UMH #211, verses 1-2-4-7

✠ Charge and Benediction

Let us go forth in joy to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Many thanks to all of those who have helped to make this worship service possible!

Presider – The Rev. Rachel Stuart Accompanist – Bob Lazenby Liturgist -

Music Director – Dave Lane Audio/visual – Gary Stauffer

Usher – Offering Stewards-Bonnie Kelly and Vaughn Buchholz

The bulletins are sponsored by Rick & Judy Francis in memory of Stacey with love from Mom & Dad.

Coffee & Co. is provided by

For December 4, we need a liturgist, a greeter, a bulletin sponsor, and Coffee & Co.