

Let us worship God together.

*HYMN #83 *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”*

[If you are fully vaccinated, please join in singing. Others, please dwell with the text in your heart and mind and quietly hum along as the leader sings.]

1 Come, thou long-expected
Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release
us;
let us find our rest in thee.

3 Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom
bring.

2 Israel’s strength and
consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

4 By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Venita Baker, JoAnn Koch, Jamie Leavens and Gilda Mitchell
representing the Adult Sunday School Class

Leader 1: Where do we hear of hope?

Leader 2: In a deep and caring church group discussion. From the mouths of young people.

*Leader 3: Through the reassuring words of a caregiver.
Hearing the name of a newcomer in our midst.*

Leader 1: Those who listen and place their hope in the Lord,

Pulpit side: will renew their strength,

Choir side: and mount up with wings like eagles.

Leader 1: Surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord,

Pulpit side: plans for your welfare and not for harm,
Choir side: to give you a future with hope.
Leader 1: *On this first Sunday of Advent, let us light a candle
to hear hope.*

(The first purple candle is lit)

ADVENT HYMN #772, v.1

1 Live into hope of captives freed,
of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see
the year of God's own jubilee!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSIIION

Holy God, we aspire to love and trust you, but so often we get in the way of ourselves. We see only the deep sadness of the world, and do not notice your people at work amid the sorrow. We assume that things will never get better, and do not see all that is good right now. We close our eyes and complain about the darkness, rather than see the light that shines all around us. Help us, Holy One. Help us to grow in love and trust, in compassion and hope, so that as the Christ Child comes to us once again, we will see him, and know him, and rejoice.

(A moment for silent meditation and confession.)

HYMN #103

“Come Now, O Prince of Peace”

1 Come now, O Prince of Peace; make us one body. Come, O Lord Jesus; reconcile all people.	3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Savior. Come, O Lord Jesus; reconcile all people.
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2 Come now, O God of love; make us one body. Come, O Lord Jesus; reconcile all people.	4 Come, hope of unity; make us one body. Come, O Lord Jesus; reconcile all people.
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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Kindred in Christ, the promise is true: God loves us. God forgives us. God is coming to us even now to save us. Thanks be to God.

ALL: Alleluia! Amen.

THE PEACE

*GLORIA PATRI (Refrain from #113)

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *"The Apostles' Creed"* (Traditional)

I believe in

God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;

who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

born of the Virgin Mary,

Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried;

he descended into hell;

the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in

the Holy Ghost;

the holy catholic* church;

the communion of saints;

the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body;

and the life everlasting.

Amen.

(* In this context, the word "catholic" means "universal")

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

you embraced us as your
own,
evermore and evermore.

evermore and evermore.

2 Though our world is ever-
changing,
you are constant, firm, and
sure,
faithful to your covenant
promise.
Trusting you, we live,
secure:
singing praises, singing
praises,
long as heart and breath
endure,
evermore and evermore.

4 God of Hagar, God of Sarah,
God of nomad Abraham;
God of Miryam, God of Moses,
Fiery Pillar, great I am:
lead us homeward, lead us
homeward,
to the love-feast of the Lamb,
evermore and evermore.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

“Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall Come”

POSTLUDE

“Fanfare”

Michael Helman

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**Congregation standing or seated*

Liturgy this week is from Beth Merrill Neel,
www.holdfasttowhatisgood.com

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WAYS TO GIVE

In Christ, God has showered us with grace upon grace. In gratitude, we now give back to God through our tithes and offerings.

Monetary offerings may be given electronically or in the vessels at each exit. To make a contribution electronically, please scan the QR Code below.



HOW TO LOG YOUR ATTENDANCE

We are changing the way we keep attendance. You may now 1) “check-in” your entire household with the push of a button on your membership app; 2) Write your names on a slip of paper and drop in the collection vessels; 3) scan the QR Code below which will take you to a simple form (this works well for first time visitors).

