



December 1, 2024

First Sunday in Advent

GATHERING IN THE LORD'S PRESENCE

Boldface = All speak

❖ = All who are able, please stand.

PRELUDE Fugue on "From Heaven Above" *J.S. Bach, Arr. by Gerard Alphenaar*

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT..... "While We Are Waiting, Come"
(CCLI Song #27525. Claire Cloninger, Don Cason © 1986 Curb Word Music.)

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Advent Readers: Jan Smith, John Strohmeier, Sue Wexler, Dan Wennerholm

Reader: The people of God waited and hoped for a long time for Jesus.

Reader: In these verses from Psalm 40 we are reminded of God's presence as we wait.

All: I waited and hoped for God, who bent toward me and heard my cry. God lifted me from the noisy pit, out of the muddy mire. God set my feet on a firm rock and gave me a new song. Many will see with awe and put their trust in God.

Reader: We light this candle of Hope to show us the way.

All: And to remind us that God is with us today.

Reader: Let us pray. God of Hope, thank you for listening and being present with us as we wait for Jesus. Amen.

❖ **HYMN** "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" **#82**
(CCLI Song #31999. Charles Wesley | Rowland Hugh Prichard © Words & Music: Public Domain.)

❖ **CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER** *(from Psalm 25:6)*

Holy God, as we begin this season of Advent, we wonder: are you about to do a new thing to make our hearts sing? Even in a weary world when so many are tired and tired of being tired? Forgive us for singing the same old song of cynicism. Forgive us for keeping quiet instead of speaking truth, and for standing back instead of stepping up. (a time for silent confession) Merciful God, align our hearts to your vision that we would increase and abound in love for one another and all of your creation. In the name of the One who is to come again, we pray. Amen.

❖ **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE**

❖ **AFFIRMING THE PEACE AMONG US**

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

The children may go back to Sunday School at this time.

GLORIA PATRI.....Henry W. Greatorex (*Public Domain*).....**#581**

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**God of grace, illumine our understanding so that we would
rightly see ourselves in the world by the light of your love.**

Amen.

1st SCRIPTURE READING Jeremiah 33:14-16, pg. 1134

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM "When Will the Little King Come"

(Words and music by Ruth Elaine Schram)

2nd SCRIPTURE READING Luke 21:25-36, pg. 1501

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE The Rev. Sara K. Snowden

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

❖ **HYMN** "Come to the Table of Grace" **#507**

(CCLI Song #7034085. Barbara Hamm. Words & Music: 2008 Hope Publishing Company)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Great God of all...

...we pray with the words you taught us:

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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, Savior, Host: you have filled our bellies with love and our mouths with grace and our hearts with courage for whatever may come. Send us out from this table, energized for hard, messy, faithful, joyous work ahead: the work of being your hands and feet in the world. Amen.

❖**HYMN** "I Come with Joy" **#515**
(CCLI Song #2802284. Brian Arthur Wren © 1968, 1971, 1995 Hope Publishing Company)

OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

DOXOLOGY Genevan Psalter (*Public Domain*)..... **#606**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT & SERVE

❖**HYMN** "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" **#546**
(CCLI Song #4529091. John Fawcett. Words & Music: Public Domain.)

❖SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE..... "Glory to God in the Highest"
Old Melody, Arr. by Gerard Alphenaar

Pastor: The Rev. Sara K. Snowden

Lector: Larry Evans

Greeter/Usher: Janice Bingaman

Communion Servers: Sue Wexler & Leila Trepanier

Worship Pianist: Amy Dickman

In gratitude for Andrew Taylor-Troutman and the Presbyterian Outlook for inspiring portions of today's worship service and The Rev. Carol Holbrook Prickett who created the communion liturgy. The candle lighting is based on Advent at Home Candle Lighting, a resource from the Around the Table initiative in the PC(USA).

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