



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 1, 2024

10:00 am

**please rise as you are able, in body or spirit.*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

INTROIT

Handchimes Choir

LIGHTING THE FIRST CANDLE OF ADVENT

Jack and Sandi Webster

A long time ago, a baby was born in a town called "House of Bread." Mary, his mother, laid him in a feeding trough to rest. Soon he would grow up to be called the Bread of Life. He would fill their hungry bellies; then, he would feed their hearts with love and truth.

Today, we light the candle of hope. Hope is believing things can get better with compassion and imagination.

As we light this candle, we are reminded that, from the manger, love is growing—growing to be God with us. His name is Jesus, the Bread of Life.

Loving God, we rehearse this beloved story year after year, because, in this world where people are hungry and creation is suffering, the story gives us hope—that all people will be fed and creation will be restored! We gather to worship in this season of hopeful expectation, knowing you are faithful to meet us here in song, prayer, and scripture. Nourish our hearts as we worship, and prepare us to serve the hungry around us. Amen.

HYMN* *“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”* 82

PRAYER OF PRAISE*

CONFESSION OF SIN (UNISON)

Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.

(silence)

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy. Kyrie Eleison. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON / PASSING OF THE PEACE*

**When sin departs before his grace,
Then life and health come in its place;
When sin departs before his grace,
Then life and health come in its place.
Glory to God in highest heaven;
Peace on earth and goodwill. Amen.**

A TIME WITH CHILDREN – The Chrismon Tree

OLD TESTAMENT – Jeremiah 33:14-16 Dwayne Kittle

OFFERING OF MUSIC Adult Choir, Ann Marie Conner, flute
“How Shall We Know Him?”

GOSPEL – Luke 21:25-36

SERMON Linda Dickerson
“Weather Forecasting”

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*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.*

**... Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in
the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

... Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

... 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF BREAD AND CUP (bread is gluten free)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: Thank you, God. We are filled with hope, for the angels still sing in our world, and still there is a star to follow. We are filled with love, for we have seen and tasted the sign of God's great love. Hope, peace, joy, and love—these are gifts of God for those whose hearts and minds are in Christ Jesus, Bethlehem baby, Servant Lord. Amen.

HYMN* *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”* 88

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*

CHORAL RESPONSE*

**While we are waiting, come;
While we are waiting, come;
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,
While we are waiting, come.**

FELLOWSHIP TIME

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES