

## **Prophets and Promises**

**Joyous Hope** 

First Sunday of Advent

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

inspired by Isaiah 2:1-4

LEADER: May the joy of the advent season

with its message of mighty hope be

with you all!

PEOPLE: We gather to worship joyous hope.

LEADER: We begin Advent by celebrating the

expectation that the Christ who came, who comes again to be with us in every

age and every place,

and who will come again in a glorious finality to consummate the healing work

which he began at Bethlehem.

PEOPLE: Come join with us Christ of hope.

LEADER: Christ will judge between nations ... they shall beat the swords into

ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any

more.

**HYMN** 

Come, Thou-Long Expected Jesus #196, UMH

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

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley (1744) Music: Rowland H. Prichard (1830)

#### **SCRIPTURE**

Psalm 122: 6-9 (NRSV)

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

"May they prosper who love you.

Peace be within your walls
and security within your towers."

For the sake of my relatives and friends
I will say, "Peace be within you."

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek your good.

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.** 



LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (9:40)

Dianna Sheely

**HYMN** 

Emmanuel, Emmanuel #204, UMH

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel. God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel

Words & Music: Bob McGee (1976) © 1976 C.A. Music (div. of Christian Artists Corp.)

#### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

written by Nancy Townley

Merciful and Patient God, how we must try your patience. We rush through the seasons of our lives as though we had a mighty schedule to keep. We plot out our days, minute by minute, crowding each moment with tasks, stresses and pressures.

And we begin to notice the growing darkness and anxiety in our lives. We proclaim boldly each year that we will not let ourselves get so caught up in the cultural pressures and demands and yet, here we are, back in the same old trap of "not enough time; not enough energy; not enough." The very plans we weave become bonds which imprison us.

Help us bind ourselves to you, loving God. Help us slow down and reflect on the many ways in which you bless us. Let us drink deeply of your hope. Remind us again of the most precious gift of all, the gift of loving relationship between you and your Creation.

As we have lifted before you our joys and concerns, so lift our spirits to remember that you are always with us, offering your healing touch and your compassionate care. Help us to place our trust in you, hear the silent prayers of our heart ... (silent prayers)

Enter into our world today and teach us to pray in hope-filled promises: 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.

**HYMN** 

Emmanuel, Emmanuel #204, UMH

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel. God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel

Words & Music: Bob McGee (1976) © 1976 C.A. Music (div. of Christian Artists Corp.)

**GIVING** 

\*RESPONSE:

#95, UMH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

**SCRIPTURE** 

Isaiah 2:5 (NRSV)

<sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob, come let us walk in the light of the Lord!

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.** 

**MESSAGE** 

Норе

Rev. David W. Brown

**HYMN** 

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light #206, UMH

I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus.

#### Refrain:

In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Sine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God.

I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. (Refrain)

I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus. (Refrain)

Text & Music: Kathleen Thomerson, 1966 ©1970, 1975 Celebration.

#### BENEDICTION

written by April Yamasaki

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.
Go with us now into the world.
Everything is about to change.
So make everything new.
Make us new.
Reveal your glory in our lives
and in the rhythms of our lives,
so that nothing will get in the way of your coming.
Amen.

Liturgist at 8:20 – Alan Stuart
Lighting the Advent Candle at 8:20 – Sandy Ader
Liturgist at 9:40 – Jane Florer
Lighting the Advent Candle at 9:40 – Kent & Maureen Smith



Gather for coffee and treats in the Atrium following the 9:40 service!

## Advent Candle Lighting

We are looking for couples / families / individuals to do a small reading and light the Advent candles during worship.

12/4, 12/11, 12/18 @ 8:20am and 9:40am 12/24 @ 5:00pm and 8:00pm

https://bit.ly/3gXxAb6





## **Armstrong Bell Choir**

**Sunday, December 11** during 9:40am worship in the Sanctuary

### **Christmas Music Concert**

Sunday, December 11
7:00pm in our Sanctuary
Free Concert presented by an outside group.

## River's Edge Brass Band & Armstrong Chapel Choir

Sunday, December 18 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary



### The Gingerbread Bash is a fun, hands-on way to celebrate Christmas together!

Friday, December 9 7:00-8:30pm in the Worship Center

You'll make a gingerbread nativity, play games, hear the Christmas story from the Bible, and discover that sometimes the most incredible gift comes in the most ordinary box.



He is the Potter and we are His clay. He will mold us and make us so that we may be made into a flawless piece of work to fulfill His good, pleasing, and perfect will.

## Women's Christmas Tea Sunday, December 4 at 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall

Gather to enjoy a fun afternoon filled with fellowship, music, Christmas goodies, and TEA!

Women United will participate in IPM's Christmas Store by donating gifts for kids this year. And it's easy — no sign-up needed — bring a donation of your choice to the Tea!



Poinsettias will decorate the Sanctuary starting in mid-Advent. You may purchase a plant in honor of or in memory of loved ones. \$20 per plant. You may take your poinsettias home with you on the night of Christmas Eve. Orders are due <u>by Sunday, December 11</u>.

Online order form: <a href="https://bit.ly/3UagA0d">https://bit.ly/3UagA0d</a>; write a note on the back of your Connect Card; or mail a note to the church office: include your payment = \$20 per plant, and who you'd like a plant in memory or in honor of (attn: Joy, 5125 Drake Rd, 45243).

### Sharing the Joy of The Season with Our Neighbors in Need

Christmas is right around the corner! We are supporting **Inter Parish Ministry's Christmas Store**, one of their biggest events of the year. Shop on your own or check out IPM's Amazon Christmas Wish Lists: Toy store: <a href="https://amzn.to/3A4Rckp">https://amzn.to/3A4Rckp</a>; Gifts for adults: <a href="https://amzn.to/3E38Bv4">https://amzn.to/3E38Bv4</a>. Gifts may be delivered to the Atrium entrance by Sunday, December 4.



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### IPM Food Pantry 2022 Christmas Wish List

Infant	Toddler	Elementary	Teen	Senior (60 yr +)
Puzzles	Barbie Dolls	Sport Team Hoodie	Sport Team Hoodie	Household Appliances
Trucks	Frozen	Pokemon	Purse	Purse
Blocks	Remote Control Car	Action Figures	Wallet	Wallet
Pajamas	Pajamas	Barbie Dolls	Makeup	Makeup
Tummy Time Mats	Baby Alive Doll	Craft Kits	Craft Kits	Cologne/Perfume
Rattles	Board Games	Remote Control Car	Makeup Mirror	Makeup Mirror
Bath Toys	Stuffed Animals	Bey Blades	Bluetooth Headphones	Card Games
Teethers	Potato Heads	Board Games	Legos	Crossword/Soduko
	Play-Doh	Stuffed Animals	Charging Hub	Bluetooth Speaker
	Paw Patrol	Star Wars "The Child"	Phone Accessories	Throw Blanket
		Legos	Fidgets	Puzzles
		LOL! Surprise Dolls		Mints/Gum/Candy

#### We have an app for your smart phone!

- Search your app store for "ShelbyNext Membership."
- On the sign-in screen, replace the word "domain" with "armstrongchapel" and leave everything behind the dot intact.
- Enter your user name and password if you already have it, or click "New user? Create an account."
- Here you can see the directory, give and even log your Sunday attendance (instead of filling out a Connect Card).
- To let us know you're at church: click "Check-In," click a person in your family, choose your service (group), click done at the top right. Log in each family member attending. Choose Remote Check-In and click the blue check-in button.

