# Mishawaka First UMC Sunday, November 30, 2025 First Sunday of Advent

### **WE GATHER**

Prelude Greeting

### **HOPE CANDLE LIGHTING - Anthony & Janis**

**Reader One:** Jeremiah 33:14–16: "The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Reader Two: "The days are surely coming, says the Lord..."

ALL: "While fear, anxiety, misinformation, and suspicion surround us on every side, we choose to watch and wait in hope..."

**Reader One:** "We light this candle of hope as a sign of our commitment to pay attention and prepare for the days that are surely coming..."

### **Hymn of Praise**

#211 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" vs. 1 - 3 & 6

Call to Prayer

Offering

The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

### **Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious and loving God, as we enter this sacred season of Advent, we bring our gifts to you with hopeful hearts. In this time of waiting and watching, may these offerings be signs of your coming light in the world. Use them—and use us—to bring hope where there is despair, peace where there is turmoil, and love where there is need. Bless what we give, and bless how we live. May our generosity be a reflection of your grace, and our faith a light that shines in the darkness. Through Christ, our Hope and our Redeemer, we pray. Amen.

### We Listen

**Hymn of Preparation** 

#216 "Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming" all verses

Scripture Lesson 1

Malachi 3:6-7

6 For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, have not perished. 7 Ever since the days of your ancestors you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. But you say, "How shall we return?"

Ministry of Music

"The Holly and the Ivy" by Russel Robinson; Chancel Choir Scripture Lesson 2

Colossians 3: 12 - 17

12 Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. 13 Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Sermon:

"Wanting More: Maps, Means & Methods"

## WE RESPOND & WE ARE SENT

**Affirmation of Faith** 

We believe in God, the Creator of heaven and earth, who made the world and called it good, And who promised to send a Savior to redeem all things. We believe in Jesus Christ, the Light of the world, who came to us as a child, born in a humble manger, And who will come again in glory to restore all creation. He is the Prince of Peace, the Hope of the Nations, The One who brings joy, justice, and salvation. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who comes to us with the Advent of Christ, filling our hearts with hope, joy, and love. The Spirit empowers us to await Christ's return And to work for the coming of God's Kingdom here on earth. As we wait in hope, we affirm the promise that Christ will come again, And in His coming, all will be made new. Until that day, we live in anticipation, trusting in God's faithfulness and grace, and proclaiming the Good News of Advent: Christ has come, Christ is coming, and Christ will come again. Amen.

**Hymn of Commitment** 

#247 "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" all verses

Call to Discipleship

Benediction

PA: Do you know who you are?

ALL: God's people in this time and in this place.

Postlude