

First Presbyterian Church Worship Bulletin 11.28.21(communion)
First Sunday of Advent

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting the First Candle of Advent

Fran and Steve Meinhard

Every year we light candles as we prepare for the coming of Christ.
More and more candles, more and more light,
as we watch and wait for Jesus, the Light of the World.

God of Promise, come into our darkness.

**Renew your hope in us,
for you alone bring life out of death.**

Receive God's promise of hope from Psalm 33:
The eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him,
on those whose hope is in his unfailing love,
to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.

**May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord,
even as we put our hope in you. (*The Hope candle is lit.*)**

Prelude

O Come, O Come, Emanuel

Arr: Mark Hayes

Call to Hope

Friends, Advent is a time of preparation and waiting for the one we hope for, Jesus Christ. Let us turn in hope by praying the prayer of hope found in the bulletin. Let us pray...

Prayer of Hope

Lord, please grant us hope in our relationship with you, our neighbor, and all creation. As the days shorten and nights lengthen, darkness seems to replace the sunshine. As trees lose leaves and temperatures drop, we feel that the new life of spring is far away. Help us to carry one another through the winter as we do for each season, to bring the warmth rather than the cold shoulder. As winter may slow us down, help us, God of hope, to illumine our hearts to remember that we are your beloved children. Even in the times where we may feel hopeless in what we or our community has to offer, grant us patience as we

wait on you, Lord, to be born in our hearts with a hope that will never disappoint. Amen.

Prayer Song *While We Are Waiting, Come (2x)*
While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Silent Reflection and Confession

***Proclamation of the Gospel**

Friends, please stand with me as you are able and join me in celebrating the Gospel...The prophet Jeremiah tells us, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." We experience that hope now by receiving the forgiveness and new life we find in Christ.

***Passing the Hope of Christ**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another and share the hope we have found in God with our neighbor. The hope of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another in the name of our Risen Lord by bowing or waving to our neighbors around us.

***The Gloria Patri**

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray...Holy Spirit, grant us openness and give us understanding of what each one of us needs to receive through Holy Scripture. Amen

Scripture Jeremiah 29:1,4-14

Sermon Living Like People of Hope

Hymn of Response *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel #9*
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer Our spirits by thine advent here;

*Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy strife and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

Offering Our Gifts and Ourselves to God

Offertory	<i>Wexford Carol</i>	Arr: Mark Hayes
<i>Good people all, this Christmas time Consider well and bear in mind that our good God for us has done In sending his beloved son</i>		

***Doxology**

The Lord's Supper

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.

Prayer after Communion

Benediction

Postlude	<i>Savior of the Nations Come</i>	Arr: J. S. Bach
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Remembering in Prayer

Praise and Thanksgiving: *(Lord, hear our praise):* The joy of living in anticipation of Christ's return.

Ministry of the Church in the Community: Boy Scout Troop 514

Healing and Encouragement *(Lord, hear our prayer):*

Homebound: Jean M

For those seeking healing and comfort: Darlene, Barbara, Eric's niece Autumn, Ebel family, Iva, Fred, Preston, Joslyn, Rod, Ernie, Brent, Nicholas F and his family, Nick W, Pastor Jean, Autumn and her family, Miss Peggy, Rick, Carlene & Wayne, Jim, Guy and Megan, Lonnie, Pete W, Kate, Bobi, Ellen and Randy's sister-in-law, Cindi C, Dave P & his twin brother, Cindy and Steve, Adam, Patty's husband, and Sheri.

For our Community: Those affected by the cold temperatures. May we be a resource for those in need.

Psalm of Encouragement:

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

Psalm 25:10

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