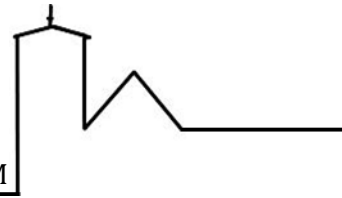


1ST Sunday of Advent

Westminster Presbyterian Church

11/30/2025 · 10:30AM



GATHERING IN THE PRESENCE OF THE RISEN CHRIST,

THE PREPARATION

Two settings of Wacht auf

Jacobus Kloppers
J.S. Bach

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Stay alert. Be prepared. The Son of Man is coming.

Thanks be to God! We will worship and get ready.

OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE—HOPE

Veni Emmanuel (sung together)

Vs. 1 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!

First Reader: The prophet Isaiah calls out to us from the past to imagine a future when God's reign will be fully established and acknowledged throughout all of creation. When that time arrives, God "shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war anymore" (Isaiah 2:4).

All: Today, we choose to live in hope, believing that God's reign has come and is coming among us.

Second Reader: We light this candle of hope as a symbol of our promise to follow the Light while responding to God's call to turn our hope into reality today and in the days ahead.

*HYMN 1

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Stuttgart

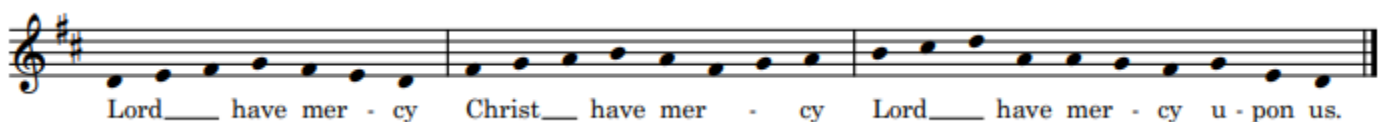
CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Prince of Peace, the wars and rumors of wars reveal our addiction to violence, our destructive and dehumanizing ways. We deserve your judgment and condemnation. Yet, you remain faithful, a steady source of peace amid our warring madness. Holy God, turn us away from evil. Return us to Christ and his path of peace. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Amen.

TIME FOR SILENCE AND PERSONAL CONFESSION

KYRIE



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GLORIA *(sung together)*

Winchester New

**All Praise to You, eternal Son, Whose advent has our freedom won.
Whom with the Father we adore, And Holy Spirit, evermore.**

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 2: 1-5

PSALM 122

I Rejoiced When I Heard Them Say
(see insert)

England

EPISTLE: Romans 13: 11-14

GOSPEL: Matthew 24: 36-44

The Word of the Lord... **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: **"More Than a Feeling: Hope Provokes Action"** **Rev. Tim Mitchell**

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 602

Song of Zechariah (Benedictus)

Merle's Tune

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(UNISON)* *(by Rev. Rebecca F. Harrison)*

We are an Advent people, a people of hope.

For us, Advent is a time of waiting, and so we wait.

We wait for the coming of the One who is the fulfillment of God's promise, the fulfillment of hope, the declaration that we have been redeemed.

Even so, we are not naive. We understand that the world we live in will keep being filled with pain and sorrow. We know that hatred and violence will persist. We recognize that death and separation will remain a part of our lives.

But because we are an Advent people, we know that none of these things will ultimately win.

The Holy One is coming to make holy once again all that was, is, and ever will be.

And in our waiting and hoping, we work, worship, pray, and play, all the while trusting that peace, love, and joy will reign in our lives and in our world, today and forever.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

May the peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

THE GIFT OF MUSIC

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

Paul Manz

Peace be to you and grace from Him who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be.
Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord,
Almighty God who was and is and is to come;
Sing holy, holy, Lord!
Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon,
For Christ is coming soon! E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come and night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun,
For Christ will be their All!



SEALING THE WORD

INTERCESSIONS AND SUPPLICATIONS

In your mercy... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (SINGING TOGETHER, Hymn 571)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name,
Your kingdom come, Your will be done,
On earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours
now and forever. Amen.**

CARRYING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 20**

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

Aberystwyth

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Postlude

Wachet auf

A.D Miller

Leading in worship today:

Rev. Tim Mitchell

Dr. Polly Brecht, Organist-Choirmaster

Lara Reem, soprano · Kate Kortemeier, alto

J. Douglas McQueen, tenor · David Kortemeier, bass

Rebekah Dentino, soprano · Dan Stanley, tenor

Dennis & Julie Herridge – Lighting the Advent Candle



Open Mind Open Hands Open Heart

Westminster Presbyterian Church · 1420 W. Moss Ave., Peoria, IL 61606

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