

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022
Rev. Vivian L. Rodeffer, Pastor

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Maxine Alstrom, Music Director



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Pastor Viv

*Gracious God, the world feels overwhelming at times. Pain, violence, and hatred cloud our vision. Restore our sight, O God, to witness the hope you have promised. Renew our hearts to trust you more fully. Inspire us anew this first day of Advent. **Amen.***

THE ADVENT WREATH

**Prayer: Loving God, as we enter this Advent season,
 We open all the dark places in our lives
 and memories to the healing light of Christ.
 Show us the creative power of hope.
 Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,
 That we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.
 The candle of HOPE is lighted.**

**Song: "Candles of Advent"
 Light one candle in the night, light one candle of hope.
 Hope for the world to calm its fear,
 Hope for the news we long to hear,
 Hope in a child who will soon appear.
 Light one candle of hope.**

***HYMN #196 “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”**

**1 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 ev’ry nation, joy of every longing heart.**

**2 Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a King,
Born to reign in us for ever, 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.**

GATHERED PRAYER

Holy God, we confess that we are not always the most hopeful people, and that we often find ourselves wanting to give up hope in this life. Please Lord, remind us of your ever-present hope and that you will keep showing up, even in hopeless spaces. Remind us again of your presence, and of your deep love for us. Give us once again the strength to remember you are with us in all things. Give us the strength to hope once more in your name. All of this we offer to you in the name of your Son, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 11: 1-10

The Peaceful Kingdom

**11 A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.**

**2 The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.**

3 His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

**He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,**

**4 but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.**

**5 Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.**

- 6 The wolf shall live with the lamb;
 the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
 the calf and the lion will feed together,
 and a little child shall lead them.
- 7 The cow and the bear shall graze;
 their young shall lie down together;
 and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- 8 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
 and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
- 9 They will not hurt or destroy
 on all my holy mountain,
 for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
 as the waters cover the sea.

Return of the Remnant of Israel and Judah

- 10 On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR

"An Advent Celebration"

John Paige

MESSAGE

HOPE MADE POSSIBLE

*"A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
 and a branch shall grow out of his roots."v.11*

RECEIVING THE MORNING'S OFFERINGS

***ADVENT DOXOLOGY**

Praise God for gifts of hope and peace

Praise God for gifts of joy and love

Praise God for sending Christ to dwell

On earth for us – Emmanuel. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We humbly lift up our offerings, seeking your blessing upon them for multiplication and guidance for faithful stewardship. Bless us the givers as well as those who will receive. Surround us with the hope of this Advent season, we pray in Jesus' holy name. Amen.

THE MORNING PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER, THE LORD'S PRAYER Pastor Karen
 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 #202 "People Look East"**

1. People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
 Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
 People, look east and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.
2. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall
 brim,
 Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
 People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.
3. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth, Christ who brings new life to
 earth.
 Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
 People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

***BENEDICTION**

May Christ be the light for our lives and build up among us a kingdom of peace
 and love. Where we will serve one another and move forward in hope
 to our home of endless joy. **Amen.**

***POSTLUDE** ***Stand as able.**

Altar Flowers today are given for the glory of God in this season of harvest to **Pastor Viv** for her ministry here at Caldwell United Methodist Church and the love and caring she has shared with church family – given by her **church family**.

CALENDAR

Monday, November 28	10 AM Prayer/ Discussion Group
Tuesday, November 29	7:30 PM Meadowlands District Super. Mtg.
Thursday, December 1	7 PM Staff Parish Committee

Friday, December 2

9:30AM Coffee & Tea Social hosted by Dave & Rita Whetton to benefit the church

Saturday, December 3

9 AM Hanging of the Greens–All welcome!

See attachments for Women's Fellowship Christmas party & to order poinsettias Poinsettias can be ordered through our website - caldwellchurch.org If using a credit card to pay please add 3.5% to help cover the transaction fee. Thank you.