

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 202
Rev. Vivian L. Rodeffer, Pastor

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Maxine Alstrom, Music Director



PRELUDE

THE ADVENT WREATH

The Matthew-Lettsome Family

Aisha Lettsome, Dike Matthew, Jayvyn and Aren Matthew

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.

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.

WELCOME

Pastor Viv

***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. Joy to those who long to see Thee, Day-Spring from on high, appear.

Come, Thou promised Rod of Jesse, of Thy birth, we long to hear!
 O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth;
 "Go to Him your praises bringing Christ the Lord has come to earth!"

3. 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.

THE PSALTER READING # 756

Psalm 25: 1-10

Jeanie Valerio, Reader

**R #216 "Lo how a rose er'e blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
 Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung."**

¹ To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

² **O my God, in you I trust;**

do not let me be put to shame;

do not let my enemies exult over me.

³ Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;

let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

⁴ Make me to know your ways, O Lord;

teach me your paths.

⁵ Lead me in your truth, and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation;

for you I wait all day long.

**R "Lo how a rose er'e blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
 Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung."**

⁶ Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,
 for they have been from of old.

⁷ **Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
 according to your steadfast love remember me,
 for your goodness' sake, O Lord!**

⁸ Good and upright is the Lord;
 therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

⁹ He leads the humble in what is right,
 and teaches the humble his way.

¹⁰ **All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,
 for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.**

**R "Lo how a rose er'e blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
 Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung."**

SCRIPTURE

Luke 21: 25-36

The Coming of the Son of Man

²⁵ “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

The Lesson of the Fig Tree

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Exhortation to Watch

³⁴ “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

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

CHOIR

“Candles of Advent”

N. Price/ D. Besig

MESSAGE

THE WORK OF ADVENT

“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down...”v. 34a

RECEIVING THE MORNING’S OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY #94**

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.

THE MORNING PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER #895

Pastor Karen

***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.**

CALENDAR

Monday, November 29	10 AM PRAYER/ DISCUSSION GROUP 7 PM SPECIAL CHARGE CONFERENCE for Council Members
Tuesday, November 30	4 PM BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL 7 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL
Thursday, December 2	9 AM to Noon BISHOP ON ZOOM FOR DISTRICT CLERGY
Saturday, December 4	9 AM HANGING OF THE GREENS—All hands on deck!
Sunday, December 5	10 AM SECOND SUNDAY ADVENT- HANGING THE PRAYER DOVES ON THE TREE

