

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025**

**First Sunday of Advent**

**Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006**

**Rev. Kil Jae Park, Pastor**



**PRELUDE**

**“As the Deer”**

**Helen Jung**

**WELCOME AND INVOCATION**

**Pastor Park**

**\* OPENING HYMN**

**“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”**

**UMH # 196**

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 every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.
2. Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child and yet a King,  
born to reign in us forever,  
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.

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

**Insert**

**The Ripa Family**

Reader: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness -- on them light has shined... For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:2, 6)

Reader: Today we remember the prophets of old, who demanded to be heard, who dared to speak of a child to come, unexpected liberator of the people, vulnerable incarnation of the Holiest of Holies, a new name for God.

**People: Today we give thanks for the prophets among us, who bring to us surprising new visions of hope, who challenge us to think outside the box, who show us a future we never anticipated.**

Reader: On this first Sunday of Advent, we light this candle called “The Prophecy Candle” that reminds us the prophets who renew our faith and remind us of what may be.

## **HYMN**

***“Light the Advent Candle” (stanzas 1)***

**TFWS # 2090**

**1. Light the Advent candle one  
Now the waiting has begun  
We have started on our way  
Time to think of Christmas day.**

**Chorus: Candle, candle burning bright  
Shining in the cold winter night  
Candle, candle burning bright  
Fill our hearts with Christmas light.**

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Merciful God, You call us to wake from sleep and prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. We confess that we are often too tired, too distracted by the busyness of life, and too focused on worldly things to heed Your call. We confess that we often turn away from the light and instead choose to live in darkness, quarreling and living for our own desires instead of for Your glory. We have not always opened our eyes to the needs of others, and our feet have wandered from the paths of justice and peace. Forgive us, Lord, for our apathy and our failure to prepare for Your coming. Stir up Your Spirit within us, that we may live in the light of Christ, reflecting Your love and hope in all that we say and do. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**L: In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.**

**P: In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.**

## **CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PASSING OF THE PEACE**

## **GATHERING SONG**

***“Surely the Presence of the Lord”***

**UMH # 328**

**Surely the presence  
Of the Lord is in this place  
I can feel His mighty power  
And His grace  
I can hear the brush of angel's wings  
I see glory on each face  
Surely the presence  
Of the Lord is in this place**

## **SCRIPTURE**

**Isaiah 2:1-5**

**1 This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem:**

**2 In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.**

3 Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

**4 He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples.**

**They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks.**

**Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.**

5 Come, O house of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God

**All: Thanks be to God**

**ANTHEM**                      **“It Is Well With My Soul/Bless the Lord”**                      **Helen Jung**

**MESSAGE**                      **“Walking in the Light”**                      **Pastor Park**

## RECEIVING THE MORNING'S OFFERINGS

**\*DOXOLOGY** **UMH # 95**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### \* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**PRAYER** **Pastor Karen**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

**\* CLOSING HYMN                      “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”                      UMH # 206**

**1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus.**

**Refrain:**  
In him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2 I want to see the brightness of God.  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path,  
and show me the way to the Father. [Refrain]

3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus. [Refrain]

**\* BENEDICTION**

**Pastor Park**

**\*Stand as able**

**Announcements:**

- We welcome all of you to our morning worship service on this first Sunday of Advent. We are glad that you are joining us this morning in person as well as online.
- We would like to extend our welcome to our guest musician today, Helen Jung.
- Special thanks to Barbara Ingra for hosting the time of Fellowship today. Please join us for fellowship immediately following the worship service.
- Fellowship Hour hosts are very much needed throughout the month of December. There is a signup sheet in the Guyn Room. Your ministry of welcome and hospitality is truly appreciated.
- To those who write checks for their offering-our bank has requested that you write out the full name of the church i.e.: "Caldwell United Methodist Church" instead of using an abbreviation such as "CUMC".



*If you wish to give electronically scan this QR code using the camera function on your smart phone. You will be taken directly to the donations page on our website.*



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**Coming Soon**

*Friday, December 12 @ 6:00 pm – Women's Christmas Party*

*Saturday, December 13 @ 7:30 pm – Blue Christmas Service*

*Sunday, December 14 @ 10 am – Christmas Cantata*

**2025 Advent Candle Lighting Schedule**

#	DATE	FAMILY
First	Nov 30	The Ripa Family
Second	Dec 7	The Lakra Family
Third	Dec 14	The Moeller Family
Fourth	Dec 21	The Zajac Family
Christmas Eve	Dec 24	The Davidson Family