



HOPE

WELCOME & OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

PRELUDE

*Veni Emmanuel, D. Schelat*¹

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE - Chuck & Kathy Kamp

Leader: As we gather today and light this candle of hope, we are reminded that Emmanuel, God-with-us, is coming into our world, and the time is drawing near.

People: The Lord is our hope and our trust.

Leader: We praise you, O God, for you are our strong refuge.

People: Our mouths are filled with your praise and with your glory all day long.

Leader: On you, O God, we wait and hope continually, and praise you yet more and more.

People: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

PRAYER OF ADORATION

***HYMN 88**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, Veni Emmanuel*²

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

REFRAIN: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

2 O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, who ordered all things mightily,
To us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. REFRAIN

3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didn't give the law in cloud and majesty and awe. REFRAIN

6 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. REFRAIN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation (*continue with individual confession...*) **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God.

Leader: May the Lord guide your way, strengthen you in all holiness, and make you abound in love for one another and for all.

*ACCLAMATION HYMN 113

Angels We Have Heard on High (refrain)³

Gloria, in Excelsis Deo! Gloria, in Excelsis Deo

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Amy Poland

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Luke 21:25-36

"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. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until

all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. 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."

SERMON

"Coming Soon"

***HYMN**

God's World is Changing, Buinessan⁴

1 God's world is changing; where is it going? Nations are raging; look at their fear!
Many are anxious, filled with foreboding; We wait in faith, for God's reign is near.

2 "Look at the fig tree!" See what it's doing. Look at the signs in heaven above. God is at work here, building, renewing; Some are afraid, but we know God's love.

3 This world is drifting, filled with distraction! Many are wandering; some fall away.
We wait in faith! We're ready for action. We're on our guard to greet God's new day.

4 What should we do, Lord, while we are waiting? Some just sit back while troubles increase. Others respond by fighting and hating. We hear your call to work for your peace.

5 Lord, may we use each day that we're given —Helping the hungry, homeless and poor. Then we'll be ready for what you're bringing When Christ will come and reign evermore.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

PRAYER RESPONSE HYMN 137

He Came Down, He Came Down⁵

He came down that we may have hope, He came down that we may have hope, He came down that we may have hope, hallelujah for evermore.

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

*HYMN 83

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus, Stuttgart*⁶

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.

2 Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

3 Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4 By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Jesus Shall Come and Bring Pleasure, arr. C. Ore*⁷

Worship Notes:

Offerings, poinsettia, and friendship forms may be placed in the plates as you exit the sanctuary. Extra forms are available on the narthex table. Pencils are available in the Narthex. Coffee fellowship after worship is in the Fellowship Hall downstairs.

1 Setting by David Schelat ©2021, Birnamwood Publications. Used by Permission. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-703704.

2 Text and Music: Public Domain

3 Text and Music: Public Domain

4 Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, © 2015 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission. Tune: Traditional Gaelic melody ("Morning Has Broken")

5 Text: Cameroon song Music: Cameroon melody, transcr. And arr. John L. Bell, 1986 Music arr. ©1986 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.) Used by Permission. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-703704.

6 Text and Music: Public Domain

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Leaders Today:

Pastor: Rev. Scott Anderson

Minister of Music: Joe Chrisman

Ushers: Andrea Kenny & Dorothy Hujik

Liturgist: Kathy Kamp

AV/Tech: John Tarr



WPC ANNOUNCEMENTS November 28

Coffee Prep Help Needed!

We are fortunate to be able to have Coffee Fellowship after the worship on Sundays, but to continue, we really need some help. Plus, what better way is there to reconnect with your fellow church friends than over a cup of coffee or hot tea? Please consider being a coffee helper. It's easy! We have directions and will train you. You can even set up the coffee before Sunday. **The sign up is on the coat-rack table in the narthex.** We need immediate help for December and hope to put a rotating schedule out after that. Many hands make light work! If you have questions, please call Kathy Key at 608-640-0134.

We need ONE more team of 2 people on December 3rd!

Westminster will deliver boxes of shelf stable food weighing 12-15 pounds to Thoreau families. At 8:30am, the teams will meet at Westminster to load 2 boxes/family into their vehicles and receive addresses for delivery. A Navigation Map is recommended for directions. The team can decide if they prefer to deliver to 5-6 families or 11-12 families. (Please let me know when you respond.) If no one answers, simply leave the boxes at the door. The entire process will take about 2 to 2 1/2 hours. If you're available on December 3rd, please contact Rhea Schultz by email at rannschi@gmail.com. You can ask a spouse or friend to help!

COVID Update: Session makes minor changes to building use policy

On Tuesday November 23, the Dane County Public Health Department extended the county-wide indoor mask mandate until January 3, 2022, with one change. For groups of people who are fully vaccinated, masks may be removed. The Session has acted to make the following changes to our COVID-related building use policy effective immediately:

1. For small groups meeting at the church, if everyone participating has been fully vaccinated, masks may be removed.
2. During service, worship leaders in the chancel area (pulpit, lectern, communion table and musicians), may remove their masks while speaking. Otherwise, masks are still church policy on Sunday mornings.
3. In the sanctuary for worship, the front sections of the sanctuary will have the blue tape removed from every other pew so congregants can sit where they please, mindful of social distancing. The back sections of the sanctuary (between the two entry doors) will continue to be taped, blocking every other pew, for those who wish more distance from others in worship.

Sunday morning coffee fellowship will continue in the fellowship hall downstairs through the winter months. Masks should be worn unless eating or drinking.

Angel Tree - Gift Tags Still Available!

The Angel Tree is up! We will provide 60 gifts to Allied Drive families so they can have a fun and happy Christmas! If you'd like to help simply:

- Choose a tag from the tree.
- Write your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet.
- Keep gifts around \$35 total—you don't have to buy everything on the tag, just up to the \$35 amount.
- Wrap gifts and tape the Angel Tree info tag securely to the package.
- Return gifts to church by Sunday, December 12th.

If you do not want to shop and wrap a gift, but you do want to participate in this program, our Westminster confirmands are here to help! Just:

- Pick a tag.
- Put your \$35 donation in the basket on the table near the tree with your chosen tag, and put your name next to that child on the sign up sheet.
- The youth will take care of the rest!

Stewardship Campaign is Close to Goal

There's still time to get in your pledge for 2022, even though our campaign is nearing its end. There are still a few pledges we hope for but haven't received yet, but the good news is that pledges received from our very faithful and generous congregation have already climbed to within 12% of our goal. If you're among those who plan to pledge, but just haven't had a chance to get your pledge in, it would be a great help to Session as they plan our programs for 2022 for your pledge to be received soon.

One of our goals as we plan for 2022 is to account for expected inflationary pressures on our 2022 budget. If you were able to increase your pledge over last year's, thank you for your help. If you haven't, please consider adding five to ten percent to last year's pledge. There's still time! Katie Bencze can help you with modifying your pledge, including increasing the amount automatically transferred from your bank.

Dessert and Auction, Saturday, December 11

Join us for fellowship, fun and some early Christmas shopping at the PWW Dessert and Christmas Auction, Saturday, December 11 from 1pm - 3pm in the narthex. We will be following the church's Covid protocols. If you would like to donate to the auction, please bring a new item that you have created, cooked or wish to donate to the auction. Proceeds benefit local community agencies and our Westminster PWW mission work. Thank you! For questions contact Judy Graham.

Adult Forum: Tiny House Villages in Madison with Allen Barkoff December 5

Join us Sunday, December 5 at 11AM in the Narthex for a special presentation. Occupy Madison, Inc. is a non-profit organization that oversees 2 Tiny House villages in Madison. The villages are a place where people without current safe housing can live and work cooperatively in a way that promotes dignity, safety, stewardship, and environmental sustainability. The first Village, established in 2014, will soon have 9 Tiny Houses with 9 occupants. The second Village established in 2020 has 23 people living in Conestoga Huts soon to be replaced by Tiny Houses. Allen will discuss the history of the organization, what requirements Occupy Madison had to meet for City approval, successes and the challenges the organization had to overcome, how the two Villages are financially supported, and its vision for the future. Allen Barkoff taught biology at Madison Area Technical College (Madison College) from 1969 until 2001 when he retired. He's been with Occupy Madison (Tiny House) Villages since 2014.

An Advent Devotional for You

Rise Up Shepherd: Advent Reflections on the Spirituals by Luke A. Powery. African American spirituals give us profound insights into the human condition and the Christian life. Dr. Luke Powery, who is Dean of Duke Divinity Chapel and Professor of Homiletics at Duke Divinity School, leads the reader each day through the spirituals as they confront the mystery of incarnation and redemption throughout the season of Advent. This is a follow up to the Lenten devotional that we used last Spring, also written by Dr. Powery.

Each daily reflection includes scripture readings, a focus on one of the spirituals, and a closing prayer, and is an ideal companion through this special season. The first day of Advent is Sunday, November 28. Books are \$12 and should be available today in the narthex. It is also available on Kindle and can be purchased through Amazon.

2022 Dine with Nine (or Ten)

A reminder to sign up for Dine with Nine if you are interested and have not done so already. The sign-up is in the Narthex or you can send an email to Juanita at jjh71152@gmail.com. There will be a brief meeting after church on December 12 to answer any questions.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...

Care List (rotating weekly): Shirley Dieter, Sally & Vern Forsberg, Ann Friedley, Jack Hamann, Gloria Hanson

Members & Friends: Kelly McCann, Gloria Stange, Ruth Hein, Dale Rohde, Sandra Cole, Bob Bush, Joel Jones, Joyce Schultze, Doug Rouse

