

Sunday, November 29, 2020
First Sunday of Advent



“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 9:6

“And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake. -Mark 13:24-37

The Advent candle we light will be for “prophecy and hope.”

Opening Music **“Joy Comes With the Dawn”** **TFWS 2210**

Welcome, Check In and Prayer Requests

Comment online, email prayerteam.faithumc@gmail.com or www.faithinyourheart/prayer

****Call to Worship and Lighting of the Advent Candles**

Reader One: Every journey faces the unknown. And anxiety can sometimes overwhelm us. There is too much to do; our lists are long; our calendars are filled up; we worry that something will go wrong, or we won't end up in the right place or take the right route. Getting lost is a real possibility on a journey. And yet. We claim **hope** for the journey, because we follow the one who will travel with us and sustain us on the way. This journey prepares the way of the Lord.

All: Let's prepare the way of the Lord!

Reader Two: Isaiah says that there is one who is to come who will be the fulfillment of all our hope. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on this one, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. We place our hope in this one.

Reader One: On this first Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of **prophecy** and **hope** to give us strength for the journey. *(Light the first Advent candle)*

Reader Two: Come, let's journey together in **hope** as we begin the season of Advent. Let's bring hope into the world, as a light in the darkness. **All: Let's listen to the prophecy of Isaiah and prepare the way of the Lord with HOPE!**

***Opening Hymn**

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

UMH 211

Faith for Kids
Prayers of the Congregation
Pastor's Prayer
Lord's Prayer

God's Word to Us

Mark 13:24-37 (NRSV)

Message

Bringing Ourselves and Our Gifts

***Prayer of Dedication (all joining)**

Thank you, God, for the wake-up call, reminding us to be prepared. Thank you for not giving up on your vision of hope, and for the opportunity to worship each week and encourage one another to stay on your path. Bless and use these gifts that we bring, so we might help the world be ready to listen to the prophecy and to welcome Jesus into the world again. Amen.

Blessing and Sending Forth "Toda La Tierra/All Earth is Waiting" UMH 210

Leader: People of God, we wait with hope, listening to the prophecy of the One who is to come; we listen, and prepare for love to be born once again into the world.

Response: Let's go and prepare the way of the Lord! Amen!

***Community Blessing**

We can join together in God's love, both inside and outside of the walls of a building. Today, we worshiped together in Spirit, and as we end this time of worship, we are reminded to be the church. Now let's bless one another!

Worship has ended...now the service begins!

Symbols of the Season

The Advent Wreath is circular and evergreen, signifying God's eternity and endless mercy without end. The four candles represent Jesus' light in what can be a dark world and our call to reflect the light and grace of God in the world. We light a candle each week to be reminded of how we can increasingly share that light in the world.

If you haven't picked up or received by delivery your 2020 Advent Kit, please call the church office to get yours! (Kits were available for pick up on 11/28 and can be delivered to anyone unable to pick them up at church. Materials and messages for Advent included for all.

Poinsettia Orders are due by December 6th (for pickup on Christmas Eve).

Poinsettia order forms are available by email and a link is provided on the Faith website.

*Advent candle lighters and readers (and decorators) for worship are still needed; contact the church office to volunteer or if you have questions about anything coming up at Faith Church.
651-460-6110 churchoffice.faithumc@gmail.com*