

First Church in Windsor, UCC

**“A Place for the Holy: Hope”
First Sunday of Advent
November 28, 2021, at 10 a.m.**



Prelude

Welcome

*** Lighting the Advent Candle: Hope**

Response

Hope Waits for Us at Advent
Words and music by Amanda Udis-Kessler
© 2020 Amanda Udis-Kessler.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**Hope waits for us at Advent. Hope waits for us to trust.
Hope waits for our commitment to a land that's kind and just.
In this time of preparation for the work of co-creation,
For the birthing of a world that heals the ones in pain,
Hope is born in us again.**

The Peace

The Hope of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

As we rise in body or spirit for our opening hymn, I invite you to pass a “wave” of peace to the people around you (and the people worshipping at home)!

***Hymn**

O Come, O Come Emmanuel
Medieval plainsong
Public domain

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the child of God appear.
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**O come, O Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show, and help us in that way to go.
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**O come, Desire of Nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
make envy, strife and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

Prayer of Invocation

O God, you wait for us until we are open to you. We wait for your word to make us receptive. Attune us to your voice; speak and bring your Son to us--Jesus, the word of your peace. You are so near to us, O God. Come to us in mildness and in power. Do not let us fail to hear you but make us open. We pray this to you, our God with us, Emmanuel. Amen.

Prayer of our Savior

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

Choir Anthem

When God Is a Child

Words by Brian Wren, music by Joan Collier Fogg
C 1989 Hope Publishing Co.
Used by permission. CCLI License #11115938

Children's Moment

Children aged 3 to 11 may leave for Faith Formation with Erin Newcomb-Moore.

Scripture

First Reading: Jeremiah 33: 14-16 (NRSV)

¹⁴The 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. ¹⁵In 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. ¹⁶In 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."

Second Reading: Luke 21:25-36 (NRSV)

'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. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

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

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, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be 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

David Figliuzzi, Yale Divinity School Student

“There Will be Signs!”

Hymn

Soon and Very Soon

Words and music by Andrae Crouch

© 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc. Used by permission.

CCLI License #11115938

**Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;
soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;
soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the king.**

**No more crying there, we are going to see the King;
no more crying there, we are going to see the King;
no more crying there, we are going to see the King;
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the King.**

**No more dying there, we are going to see the King;
no more dying there, we are going to see the King;
no more dying there, we are going to see the King;
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the King.**

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response

Emmanuel

Words and music by Bob McGee

© 1976 C.A. Music

Used by permission. CCLI License #11115938

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
his name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us.
His name is called Emmanuel.**

Announcements

Offering Plates are on the tables back of the church. We encourage you to give online [here](#).

Carol

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

By Richard S. Willis

Public domain

**It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold.
“Peace on the earth, good will to all, great news of joy we bring.”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.**

**Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.**

**For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophet bards foretold,
when with the evercircling years comes round the age of gold,
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world send back the song which now the angels sing.**

*Benediction

Postlude

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme

By Johann Gottfried Walther

Public domain

Prayers for today's service were adapted and used by permission of © www.worshipdesignstudio.com/theinn and Chalice Worship C. Cartwright and O. Harrison, eds. St. Louis, MO: Chalice Press. 1997.

*Please stand as you are able

Bolded Font to be read by all