

Order of Service for the 1st Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

10:00 a.m.

Prelude "Awake, a Voice Calls" Johann Gottfried Walther

Welcome

Call to Worship (inspired by Isaiah 64)

Tear open the heavens and bring forth your presence.

We watch and we wait for the glory to come.

**We gather in hope, remembering your mercy. Lead us in love; shine from above.**

Awaken the earth, enflame and en flesh. We watch and we wait for what's birthing ahead.

**We gather with hope, remembering your justice.**

**Revive us, restore us; shine from above.**

Make us your love wave to broaden your reach. We watch and wait for your deeds to appear.

**We gather with hope, remembering your handiwork.**

**Make us, mold us; shine from above.**

Hymn No. 103 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Hebrew Scripture Lesson Isaiah 64:1-9 (pew bible pg.1161-1162)

Lighting the Advent Candle of Hope

We enter this season of waiting by lighting the candle for Hope, anticipating the light of the star that shone over Bethlehem for all to see.

**We open ourselves to hear your call - the call to keep hope alive no matter the troubles we face. Help us to never lose hope and to offer hope to all around us, making our lives and the lives of others a brighter place. Fill us with your hope and light, and make the world so calm and bright.**

Song "One Candle Is Lit"



Come sure-ly, Lord Je-sus, as dawn fol-lows night, our hearts long to



greet you, as ros-es, the light. Sal-va-tion, draw near us, our vi-sion en-



gage. One can-dle is lit for the hope of the age.

Offering

A Time for Silent Prayer

Response (*singing*)

**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Eating a Meal with Jesus

You spoke of the days to come, Architect of life, when anthills would erupt from dirt, when cattle would gather under shade trees... Finally, when no one expected, you came, not in power but in poverty, a crying baby born to nobodies. As we start our journey to Bethlehem in hope, we seek to be alert and awake, as we would proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ died, seeking the good for all; Christ was raised, putting on resurrection's love;  
Christ will come, precisely when we least expect him.**

Blessing and Distribution of Bread and Juice

Prayer of Thanks and the Prayer of Our Savior

**Gracious God, we give you thanks for satisfying our hungry hearts with this sacred meal shared in the Spirit of Jesus, your Son, our hope. Strengthened and refreshed, we go from here to show your love in the world. We pray this in the name of the babe in Bethlehem, Jesus the Christ who taught us, saying: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Anthem

"O Come, Emmanuel"

Elaine Hagenberg

Gospel Lesson

Mark 13:24-37

(pew bible pg. 1578)

Sermon

Hymn No. 217

"Lord of All Hopefulness"

Blessing

Postlude

**Upcoming on Sunday, December 10th:**

- 9:00 a.m.: Christmas Pageant Costuming - no rehearsals, all children and teens welcome!
- Following worship: All Church Special Meeting & Coffee Hour - Learn about changes coming to TCC in 2024.

**Today's Greeters:** Barbara Janczunski, Deb Barac

**TCC News and Events:** Subscribe to our newsletter: [www.tccnorton.org/contact-us/newsletter/](http://www.tccnorton.org/contact-us/newsletter/)

**Ways to Give:**

- Place an offering in the plate near the door of the sanctuary.
- Give online via our TCC website: [www.tccnorton.org/giving](http://www.tccnorton.org/giving)
- Use your mobile device by downloading the free Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app



**TCC Prayers and Blessings:**

Jim Stewart; Becky McGrath; Karen Antonio; Pat Wedge; Mal Haskins;  
Margaret Blake; Richie Chiasson

To request an addition to TCC's Prayers and Blessings: [www.tccnorton.org/ministries/#weekly](http://www.tccnorton.org/ministries/#weekly)

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**Thank you for joining us today!**

