



# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

1st Sunday of Advent | November 28, 2021

*\*Indicates where it is appropriate, but not necessary, to stand.  
All speak words in **boldface**.*

## ❖ Called by God We Gather ❖

GATHERING MUSIC & WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS  
(Gather and greet each other in joy.)

CALLED TO WORSHIP IN RINGING THE TRINITY AND IN MUSIC  
*People, Look East*

arr. Charles Callahan

OPENING SENTENCES GATHERED AROUND THE ADVENT WREATH  
Doris Greene & Andrea Smith, 8:30AM  
Helen & Charles Odum, 11:00AM

Leader: O God, we ask, "Where do we hear of hope?" then remember:

Choir: Those who place their hope in the Lord

Cong.: will renew their strength and mount up with wings like eagles.

Leader: Surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord.

Choir: Plans for your welfare and not for harm,

Cong.: to give you a future with hope.

Leader: O God, we light a candle for the hope that we have in you.

🕯️ (*Advent Candle lighters return back to seats.*)

\*ADVENT HYMN #88    *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*  
vv. 1 & 2

VENI EMMANUEL

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

Praise be to you, **God always faithful**,  
you are the source of all hope.

Praise be to you, **God always gracious**,  
you are the hope beyond hope;

**the hope beyond earthly hope that saves us.**

Praise be to you, **God ever present**,  
you are the hope – heard, seen, shared, and proclaimed –  
that tethers us to you – like a strong rope –  
and strengthens us to keep going  
**because we know that we are not alone.**

Sung Response:



For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits; for tru - ly my hope is in you.

TEXT: Psalm 62:5. MUSIC: Plainson adapt. Thomas Helmore, 1852 VENI EMMANUEL

Holy God,  
if hope is the strong rope that tethers us to you,  
then grace is your searching light that seeks us  
and your loving embrace that greets us.  
Trusting in you and your promises fulfilled,  
believing in you and your redeeming grace,  
we confess our ways that are hard to admit.

*(Silent confession)*

God, always with us, **forgive us when our waning hope makes our love for you and neighbor suffer. Pull us up, Lord! Let our words and actions testify to the unending hope we have in you – hope that lifts us from despair, strengthens us when weak, comforts us when troubled, stirs our anger at injustice, and makes us brave to love others. Yes, pull us up! We pray this in the name of the One who is hope for the world. Amen.**

#### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends,  
We are not alone.  
Our hope is in the good news  
that God has come to live with us.  
Christ dwells among us,  
and in Christ is life,  
and the life is the light of all people.  
In Christ, God reclaims, redeems, and restores all of creation.  
By this grace our sins are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE #100

v. 1

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

STAR COUNTY DOWN

❖ **To Hear God's Word of Grace** ❖

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 11:1-10 & Matthew 1:17

ANTHEM

*Come to Us, O Promised One*

Jan McGuire & L. Larson

Sue Anderson, Gail Thomas, Lynn Auman, Alberta Gisel, Helen Odem,

Carol Partridge, Laura Viau, women's septet (*See insert for verses*)

SERMON

"Hear Hope"

Rev. Laura Viau

❖ **To Respond in Faith with Gratitude** ❖

PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

The Lord's Prayer p. 35 in the hymnal

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostle's Creed

p. 35 in the hymnal

❖ **To Depart Blessed to Serve** ❖

\*HYMN #129 *I Danced in the Morning*

LORD OF THE DANCE

(*All sing on the Refrains and vv. 1 & 5; Choir sings vv. 2, 3, & 4*)

\*BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

When we feel lost, hope is the rope

**helping us find our way home.**

When things are beyond our control, hope is the rope

**keeping us secure.**

In the darkness of the night, hope is the rope

**giving us something to hold on to.**

When we feel alone, hope is the rope,

**with strands that bind us together,**

**helping us comfort and strengthen one another.**

**Thank God for the gift of hope.**

**Alleluia!**

## CLOSING MUSIC



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**Rev. Laura Viau, Interim Pastor** ([church@atmc.net](mailto:church@atmc.net))

**Randy Warner**, Liturgy and Music Associate; **Kathy Sasso**, Church Secretary;

**Linda Rowell**, Church Treasurer; **Joyce Winkler**, Qualified Ruling Elder;

**Hery Ramambaoa**, Regional Liaison for Southeast Asia and the Pacific