



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

3rd Sunday of Advent | December 12, 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

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

arr. David Lasky

OPENING SENTENCES GATHERED AROUND THE ADVENT WREATH

Wayne & Linda Rowell, 8:30AM

Ken & Jeanne Curry, 11:00AM

Leader: God, we ask, "How can we share hope?" then remember:

Choir: When others are weary and broken, we strengthen them.

Cong.: When we are weary and tired, we lean on the hope others provide.

Choir: Jesus says, "Come to me all who labor and are heavy laden,

Cong.: and I will give you rest."

Leader: God, we light this third candle, that we may share your hope with all in need.

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

*ADVENT HYMN #82, v. 1

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

God always faithful, **praise be to you,**

you are the source of all hope.

God always gracious, **praise be to you,**

you are the hope beyond hope;

the hope beyond earthly hope that saves us.

God ever present, **praise be to you,**

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.**

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

*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 #82, v. 2 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* HYFRYDOL

❖ **To Hear God's Word of Grace** ❖

SCRIPTURE READINGS Mark 2:1-12

ANTHEM *Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness* arr. Joel Raney
Gail Thomas, Laura Viau, & Wayne Tillman, trio 8:30AM
SPC Chancel Choir, 11:00AM
(*You are invited to follow the text by reading hymn #314.*)

SERMON "Sharing 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

*SCRIPTURAL AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
Luke 1:46-54, Hymn #100, *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*
(*All sing all Refrains and vv. 1 & 4; Choir sings vv. 2, 3*)

❖ **To Depart Blessed to Serve** ❖

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

Hery Ramambaoa, Regional Liaison for Southeast Asia and the Pacific