



# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

4th Sunday of Advent | December 19, 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

*Love Has Come: a Light in the Darkness!*

arr. David Sims

### OPENING SENTENCES GATHERED AROUND THE ADVENT WREATH

Gene & Tammy Mc Kethan, 8:30AM

Nancy & Bob Gorman, 11:00AM

Leader: God, we ask, "Where do we proclaim hope?" then remember:

Ringers: On hillsides and valleys, in villages and cities,

Cong.: go tell it everywhere.

Leader: God, we ask, "How do we proclaim hope?" and an answer comes:

Ringers: In laments, in hymns, in carols, and in songs of justice and peace.

Cong.: With the Spirit of the Lord upon us, bringing good news to all.

Leader: God, we light this fourth candle, that we may proclaim your hope to everyone, everywhere.

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

\*ADVENT HYMN #772

*Live into Hope*

TRURO

### \*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

Suzanne Simpson & Joyce Winkler, liturgists (8:30AM)

Ryan & Kim Smithwick, liturgists (11:00AM)

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

Hymn #100, refrain, *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*

***My heart shall sing of the day you bring.***

***Let the fires of your justice burn.***

***Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,***

***and the world is about to turn.***

TEXT: Rory Cooney, 1990. MUSIC: Irish melody; Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.  
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❖ **To Hear God's Word of Grace** ❖

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 61:1-11

WE RING TO PROCLAIM... THE PROMISE OF HOPE

*Long Ago, Prophets Knew*

arr. Carol Lynn Mizell

SPC Handbell Ringers

*Long ago, prophets knew Christ would come, born a Jew,  
come to make all things new; bear his people's burden, freely love and pardon.*

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring! Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!*

*When he comes, when he comes, who will make him welcome?*

*God in time, God in man, this is God's timeless plan:*

*he will come, as a man, born himself of woman, God divinely human.*

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring! Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!*

*When he comes, when he comes, who will make him welcome?*

TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, Text: © 1971 Stainer & Bell, Ltd. admin. Hope Publishing Company.  
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SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-6

WE RING TO PROCLAIM... THE ARRIVAL OF HOPE

*The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*

arr. Fred Gramann

SPC Handbell Ringers

*The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;  
"All hail," said he, "O lowly maiden Mary," Most highly favored lady, Gloria!*

*"For know a blessed mother you shall be, all generations praise continually,  
your Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold." Most highly favored lady, Gloria!*

Basque carol translated by S. Baring-Gould, P.D.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:8-20

WE RING TO PROCLAIM... THE GLORY OF HOPE

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

arr. Fred Gramann

SPC Handbell Ringers

*Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, . . .*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? . . .*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Come to Bethlehem and see him who birth the angels sing; . . .*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Traditional French carol, 18th cent., P.D.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 4:16-21

"Proclaiming Hope"

Rev. Laura Viau

## ❖ To Respond in Faith with Gratitude ❖

\*AFFIRMATION OF OUR HOPE IN CHRIST

Luke 4:18-21 & Selected verses

Jim, Sarah, Betsy, and Powell Braddock, liturgists

Let us stand and affirm our faith.

When Jesus began his ministry he read from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah:

**The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
because the Lord has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.**

.....

Now, let all God's people say, **AMEN!**

PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

*Heaven Shall Not Wait*

arr. Randy Warner

SPC Handbell Ringers & Chad Hammer, cello

*Heaven shall not wait for the poor to lose their patience,  
the scorned to smile, the despised to find a friend:  
Jesus is Lord; he has championed the unwanted;  
in him injustice confronts its timely end.*

*Heaven shall not wait for the rich to share their fortunes,  
the proud to fall, the elite to tend the least:  
Jesus is Lord; he has shown the master's privilege:  
to kneel and wash servants' feet before they feast.*

*Heaven shall not wait for the dawn of great ideas,  
thoughts of compassion divorced from cries of pain:  
Jesus is Lord; he has married word and action;  
his cross and company make his purpose plain.*

*Heaven shall not wait for triumphant Hallelujahs,  
when earth has passed and we reach another shore:  
Jesus is Lord in our present imperfection;  
his power and love are for now and then for evermore.*

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❖ **To Depart Blessed to Serve** ❖

\*HYMN

*Joy to the World*

*(When directed, sing, verse one of, "Joy to the World.")*

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;  
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt. P.D. MUSIC: Attr. George Frederick Handel, 1742; arr. Lowell Mason, 1836 P.D.

\*BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

CLOSING MUSIC

*Repeat the Sounding Joy*

arr. Susan T. Nelson

SPC Handbell Ringers



Scan to Give

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