

RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.19*

Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus.

His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God.

He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel,

the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity.

He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church

to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, *including Concerns and Celebrations*

OFFERING *(We will resume passing the offering plates during worship today)*

OFFERTORY *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* arr., B. Wolaver

*PRAISE HYMN 712 "As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought" FOREST GREEN

(verse 1) **As those of old their firstfruits brought of vineyard, flock, and field
to God, the giver of all good, the source of bounteous yield,
so we today our firstfruits bring, the wealth of this good land:
of farm and market, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN 547 "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" AR HYDY NOS

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING HYMN 540 "Farewell, Good Friends!" SHALOM, CHAVERIM

**Farewell, good friends! Farewell, good friends!
Shalom, shalom! Till we meet again,
till we meet again, shalom, shalom.**

*POSTLUDE *Wake, Awake for Night is Flying* P. Nicolai

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* denotes standing as able.

PIANIST: Pam Knox

LITURGIST: Luanne Rigby



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022

COVENANT at WORSHIP

Liturgical Color: Purple First Sunday of Advent 11:00am Worship

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PREPARATION *Give Thanks* arr., H. Leonard

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY *Of The Father's Love Begotten* arr., C. Tornquist

LIGHTING THE FIRST CANDLE OF ADVENT

The world says, "All is lost." God says, "All is loved."

The darkness says, "The light is dying." The light says, "The fire is catching."

Fear says, "Cover your eyes and your ears." Hope says, "Wait, watch, and listen."

(The candle of Hope is lit)

As we light our first Advent candle, we pray for the holy hope of God.

Come now, O Child of Mary. Come now, O Prince of Hope.

*HYMN "Advent Song" music by Cliff Brock

**Light the Advent candle, one: Now the waiting has begun;
we have started on our way, time to think of Christmas day.
Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;
Candle, candle burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we are steeped in a world of violence.

**War is one of the first things we learn,
and we let it work its way into our lives.**

**Your promises of peace sound like impossible dreams,
and we become accustomed to cruelty.**

**Forgive us. Wrest our weapons from our hands,
and show us how beautiful life can be**

when you forge them into instruments of peace. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*HYMN 611 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" HYMN TO JOY

(verse 1) **Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.**

LISTEN FOR THE GOOD NEWS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 2: 1-5

GOSPEL READING Matthew 24: 36-44

PROCLAMATION Dana Waters

*HYMN 92 "While We Are Waiting, Come" WAITING (Cason)