

First Sunday of Advent
November 27, 2022
United Church of Christ, Neillsville
Pastor Gary Wilner

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PRELUDE *Choral Prelude on*
"Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme" J.S. Bach
Karen Mohr

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*"Welcome!
No Matter Who You are,
or Where You are on
Life's Journey,
You are Welcome Here!!"*

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Leader: In Advent we watch and wait, and
prepare to welcome the Christ Child into the
world.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Leader: In Advent we prepare for a life of
discipleship, and watch faithfully for signs of
God's light breaking into the world.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Leader: As we wait, dear One, we watch for
signs of your action in the world,
Actions of compassion and grace breaking in.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Leader: Holy God, we recognize that we do not
know the day or the hour, but we know that
the day is near.

**All: Come, Lord Jesus, come! Be born anew in
our world and in our lives.**

OPENING HYMN

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Arr. Thomas Helmore
#116 NCH verses 1-4

**1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Child of God appear.**

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

**2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,
and order all things far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show,
and help us in that way to go. [Refrain]**

**3 O come, O come, O Adonai,
who came to all on Sinai high,
And from its peak a single law
proclaimed in majesty and awe. [Refrain]**

**4 O come, O shoot of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny,
From depths of hell your people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave. [Refrain]**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

**In this season as the days grow shorter and
the shadows lengthen, we gather in eager
expectation for the light of the World to
dawn.**

**Help us, God, to lay aside all the works of
night and even our cynicism as we enter this
sacred season.**

**During this hour of worship, send your Spirit
to empower us to live in the light with hope.
Amen.**

LIGHTING THE "HOPE" ADVENT CANDLE

Carol Romens & Jenny Erickson

CHILDREN'S TIME

READING OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

Reader- Bonnie Weyer

Old Testament: Isaiah 2:1-5

New Testament: Matthew 24:36-44

The Old Testament reading this morning is Isaiah Chapter 2 verses 1-5

This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem:

In the last days the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.

Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the temple of the God of Jacob.

He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples.

They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks.

Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

Come, descendants of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The New Testament reading is from the Gospel of St. Matthew chapter 24 verses 36-44

The Day and Hour Unknown

"But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying, and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all

away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

"Therefore, keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. So, you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

This ends the reading of the Holy Scriptures this first Sunday in Advent.

PASTORAL, SILENT, LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer:

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

SERVICE OF GIVING AND SHARING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

God of hopeful waiting, we give thanks for all of the ways in which you reveal yourself to us.

Help us to clear away the many distractions of this season and offer our whole lives as gifts to you.

May these offerings nurture all of the ways in which your promise is breaking into the world in acts of compassion and justice. May these gifts nurture your rule of peace. Amen.

HYMN *“Come, O Long-Expected Jesus”*

Christian Witt , Charles Wesley

#122 NCH verses 1-4

**1. Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set all people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
grant us your true liberty.**

**2. Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth impart;
dear desire of every nation,
enter every longing heart.**

**3. Born all people to deliver,
born a child, you came to reign!
Born to rule on earth forever,
come, be known to us again.**

**4. By your own eternal Spirit,
come to claim us as your own;
by your all-sufficient merit,
let us share your cross and crown.**

ADVENT MEDITATION

“Is It Time Yet?” Pastor Gary

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG *“You Raise Me Up”*
Savannah & Matt Shaw

POSTLUDE

JOYS AND CONCERNS



WELCOME

**We welcome you to our service of worship!
We are glad that you have joined us
in-person, through the internet or on the radio.
We pray that you will hear God’s call,
seek to follow Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RADIO BROADCAST

**11 AM Sunday radio broadcast on WCCN
98.5FM and 1370AM**

Youtube link for November 27, 2022
https://youtu.be/Hb3_SJiyfF8

**This week’s radio broadcast is
sponsored by “a faithful listener”**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday, November 29th –
1 PM – Bible Study – 510 W 14th Street
*every week at Marge Goetsch's home



Please have any articles in for the December Newsletter by **Tuesday, November 29th**.



Once again, it's that time to think about ordering poinsettias for our church's Christmas Eve Services.

We will be placing our order with Falls Florist and

would like the **orders in by December 10th**.

You can choose between red and white poinsettias. The price is \$15.00, and they can be ordered in honor, or in memory or for any other reason you may have.

There will be order forms available in the narthex and church office.

*"The root of Jesse will come ...
in him will the Gentiles*

Hope
Romans 15:12, ESV

