

Worship – November 28, 2021 (First Sunday of Advent)

Prelude

God Gathers His People

Welcome

*God Greet Us

*We Greet Each Other (waving)

*Call to Worship

What are you waiting for?

We wait in HOPE for the Lord;

he is our help and our shield.

But if we HOPE for what we do not yet have,

we wait for it patiently.

Where is your HOPE?

**For the grace of God has appeared that offers
salvation to all people.**

It teaches us to live in this present age

while we wait for the blessed HOPE—

the appearing of the glory

of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

But as for me, I watch in HOPE for the LORD,

I wait for God my Savior.

—adapted from Psalm 33:20; Romans 8:25; Titus 2:11–13; Micah 7:7

***Opening Songs – Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes (LUYH #60)**

Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes,
the Savior promised long!

Let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song.

3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
the wounded soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humbled poor.

2 He comes the prisoners to release,
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.

4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
your welcome shall proclaim,
and heaven's eternal arches ring
with your beloved name.

Words: Philip Doddridge (1735); based on Isaiah 61:1-2, P.D.

Music: Thomas Haweis, 1792; adapt. Samuel Webbe, 1808;

Descant: Craig S. Lang, used by permission of Novello and Company, Ltd., admin. G. Shirmer, Inc.

Sing to the King (LUYH #474)

Sing to the King

1 Sing to the King who is coming to reign.
Glory to Jesus, the Lamb that was slain.
Life and salvation his empire shall bring,
and joy to the nations when Jesus is King.

Come, let us sing a song
a song declaring that we belong to Jesus;
he is all we need.
Lift up a heart of praise.
Sing now with voices raised to Jesus;
sing to the King.

2 For his returning we watch and we pray;
we will be ready the dawn of that day.
We'll join in singing with all the redeemed,
'cause Satan is vanquished and Jesus is King.

Come, let us sing a song
a song declaring that we belong to Jesus;
he is all we need.
Lift up a heart of praise.
Sing now with voices raised to Jesus;
sing to the King.

Words and Music: Billy Foote © 2003 worshiptogether.com Songs / sixsteps Music, admin. EMICMGPublishing.com

Advent Candle Lighting

Advent is a time of waiting.
We wait in anticipation of Christmas,
the celebration of Christ's birth.
We wait in expectation and hope for the day when Christ comes again.
Today, we light the candle of hope.
As we wait, let us be people of hope.
[The first candle is lit.]

Song of Response – Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus (CL #244)

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come, though long-expected Jesus
Born to set thy people free
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart

Born thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a king
Born to reign in us forever
Now thy gracious kingdom bring
By thine own eternal spirit,
Rule in all our hearts alone
By thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne

Words: Charles Wesley

Music: Rowland H. Prichard; *arr.* Robert Harkness

We Hear God's Word

Children's Message – Football Skit (maybe)

Prayer of Illumination

Bible Reading – **Luke 12:35-40**

³⁵ "Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, ³⁶ like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. ³⁷ It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. ³⁸ It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak. ³⁹ But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."

Message: **Active Waiting**

Prayer

We Respond to God's Word

*Song of Response – All Earth Is Waiting (LUYH #57)

All Earth is Waiting

1 All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,
and open furrows await the seed of God.
All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true
liberty;
it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.

3 Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain;
open new highways, new highways for the Lord.
He is now coming closer, so come all and see,
and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.

2 Thus says the prophet to those of Israel:
“A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel,”
one whose name is “God-with-us” our Savior shall
be;
with him hope will blossom once more within our
hearts.

4 In lowly stable the Promised One appeared;
yet feel his presence throughout the earth today,
for he lives in all Christians and is with us now;
again, with his coming he brings us liberty.

Words: Alberto Taulé; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall © 1972, 1993 and tr. 1995 *Centro de Pastoral Litúrgica*, admin. OCP Publications
Music: Alberto Taulé; arr. © 1993, 2006 *Centro de Pastoral Litúrgica*, admin. OCP Publications

Announcements

Prayer of the People

Offering: *CRC World Renew* – an agency of the Christian Reformed Church which responds to needs of people around the world suffering from poverty, hunger, disaster, and injustice

God Sends Us with His Blessing

*Blessing

As you wait for Christ to return,
live as people of **hope***, and go with God's blessing.
May hope in Christ's return sustain you,
God's peace saturate the world around you,
the joy of the Holy Spirit strengthen you,
and the love of the triune God encircle you,
in this moment and in all the moments to come. Amen.

*Sending Song – Savior, Again to Your Dear Name We Raise (LUYH #932 v. 1-2)

Savior, Again to Your Dear Name We Raise

1 Savior, again to your dear name we raise
with one accord our parting hymn of praise.
We give you thanks before our worship cease,
and now departing, wait your word of peace.

2 Grant us your peace upon our homeward way;
with you began, with you shall end the day.
Guard now the lips from sin, the hearts from
shame,
that in this house have called upon your name.

Words: John Ellerton, 1866, alt. P.D.
Music: Edward J. Hopkins, 1869, P.D.

Accompanist – Carol Singers – Dave P, Dawn Sound – Shanna/Dave V
Video – Julie/Anna PowerPoint – Heidi