

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WHIPPANY

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 28, 2021, 10:15 AM

...

*Welcome! We're worshipping on ZOOM and in the
SANCTUARY this Sunday!*

*If you would like to make a donation to the church,
please access our online giving page at
www.whippanychurch.com/give
or mail your gift to the church office.*

If you're in person, welcome!

*All participants are required to wear a mask. And, social
distance must be maintained at all times.*

*You are invited to enter the sanctuary from any
door--through the double glass doors from the parking lot or
from the Route 10 side of the building, through the red
exterior doors. Exit from the building, through any door, will
happen immediately following worship. You are invited to
spend time greeting one another outdoors! Please do not
stop to talk in the church hallways, so that people can feel
comfortable exiting at a social distance.*

If you're on ZOOM, welcome!

*Your ZOOM host will unmute your microphone for the
passing of the peace and the prayers of the people. At that
time, we'll be able to hear your voice in the sanctuary. We're
recording the service for our website; please don't share
people's last names during the prayers. Grace abounds!*

LIGHTING THE FIRST CANDLE OF ADVENT

Leader: Let us pray:
Faithful God,
out of death you bring life.
Renew us in hope,
that we may be alert
to the burgeoning of Christ's advent among us.

**People: God of promise,
God of hope, into our darkness come.**

INTROIT

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Sarah J. Cairatti

*CALL TO WORSHIP From 'A Sanctified Art'

Can one be homesick for something you've never known?

**We are homesick for a just world,
for peace like rivers,
for the end of suffering.**

Yes, we are homesick—

**for joy that is contagious,
for nations that feel like neighbors,
and for hospitals that run empty.**

We are homesick for the world God promises.

**We are homesick,
but we are on our way.**

God is here.

God is still creating.

Let us worship Holy God.

*HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

#9

PRAYER OF RESTORATION (Unison)

**Gracious God,
We find ourselves with two options every day—
to stay homesick for the world you had in mind,**

**or to allow cynicism to win.
Do we hope against hope,
or do we throw in the towel?
Do we insist on a better world,
or do we assume it's impossible?
Forgive us for the days when cynicism wins.
Forgive us for numbing our homesick hurt
instead of using it to fuel a better world.
Kindle in us a hope that won't let go.
Gratefully we pray. Amen.**

SUNG RESPONSE "Away in a Manger," verse 3 #25

*SHARING SIGNS OF CHRIST'S PEACE

Leader: Promised by the angels,
and sought by the shepherds,
may the peace of Christ
be with you.

People: And also with you.

ANTHEM "Immanuel" The Senior Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 21:25-36

SERMON The Rev. Sarah J. Cairatti

*HYMN "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" #2

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

You are invited to share your joys and concerns.

"For N. and N. we pray to the Lord." **Amen.**

"For N. and N. we praise the Lord!" **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our 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.

*HYMN “O Little Town of Bethlehem” #44

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Those who are able may stand

WELCOME, VISITORS...We're glad you are with us this morning, and we invite you to participate fully in all parts of the worship service. If you would like more information about the church, or if you would like to share a prayer concern, please email whippsecretary@optonline.net or call the church office and leave a message 973-887-2197.

Calendar of Events

For a full calendar of church events, please visit www.whippanychurch.com

Sunday, November 28

10:15 AM Worship, First Sunday of Advent
 Sunday School for Children and Youth

Tuesday, November 30

12 PM Tuesday Prayer on ZOOM

Wednesday, December 1

10 AM Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Sunday, December 5

10:15 AM Worship and Communion,
Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday School for Children and Youth

All people are required to wear masks to worship and other indoor programming at the church and maintain social distance at all times. The CDC advises that in areas of substantial or high transmission all people should wear masks indoors. The Session has decided to follow this guidance, as our area is currently experiencing high transmission.

The CDC guidance is found here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/full-y-vaccinated.html>

Session is watching the metrics of infection rate, daily new cases, and percent positive testing, closely, and may make a decision to move worship outdoors or online.

*These metrics are tracked at COVID ACT NOW available at:
https://covidactnow.org/us/new_jersey-nj/county/morris_county/?s=1763684*