

*1st Sunday of Advent (Year C)*

10:30 A.M. | Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Today's Texts:

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalm 25:1-10

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Luke 21:25-36

*(The worship service begins with the **prelude**. Let us silently prepare our hearts and allow others the same opportunity.)*

*\*We invite you to rise in body or in spirit*

**Chimes**

**Prelude:**

**Words of Welcome and Announcements**

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

Without hope, we have no direction, no purpose.

As we begin the season of Advent,

we wait in hopeful anticipation

of the newness God has brought and is bringing to this world.

We seek to live as a people of hope,

with our hearts set on the life to come,

and our eyes set on the work we're called to do in the meantime.

*Sung Response - Hymn No. 85 (Verse 1 only)*

We light this candle to symbolize our hope in Jesus' birth.

**We gather to share this hope with one another.**

**\*Call to Worship**

Advent has come and along with it another journey in need of beginning.

**We gather in hopeful anticipation of our Savior's birth.**

This journey of waiting will have moments of sabbath and service.

**We take a break from our busy lives to ponder and wonder.**

As we seek the newborn king, worship is that which directs our search.

**We seek that which has saved and will save us forevermore.**

Come, let us worship and seek our savior with hope and thanksgiving!

Let us pray...

**\*Prayer of the Day**

**\*Hymn No. 88** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

VENI EMMANUEL

### \*Invitation to Confession

We are called to lift up our souls to God.  
Often, we would prefer only to lift up the parts of our soul  
that we are proud of.  
But it is equally important that we lift up to God our sins as well.  
Let us do so together with honesty and courage.

### \*Prayer of Confession

**We are told to be on guard, to be prepared for your coming.** *Luke 21*  
**We confess, merciful God, that too often we are lazy  
and do not trouble ourselves with the prayerful sabbath  
that is required on this Advent road.**  
**Help us to be alert at all times,  
to be aware of your presence in our lives.**  
**Make us to know your ways, O Lord;** *Psalm 25*  
**teach us your paths and lead us in your truth.**  
**This we pray in your holy and merciful name. Amen.**

### \*Kyrie

*Words by Stephen M. Fearing*

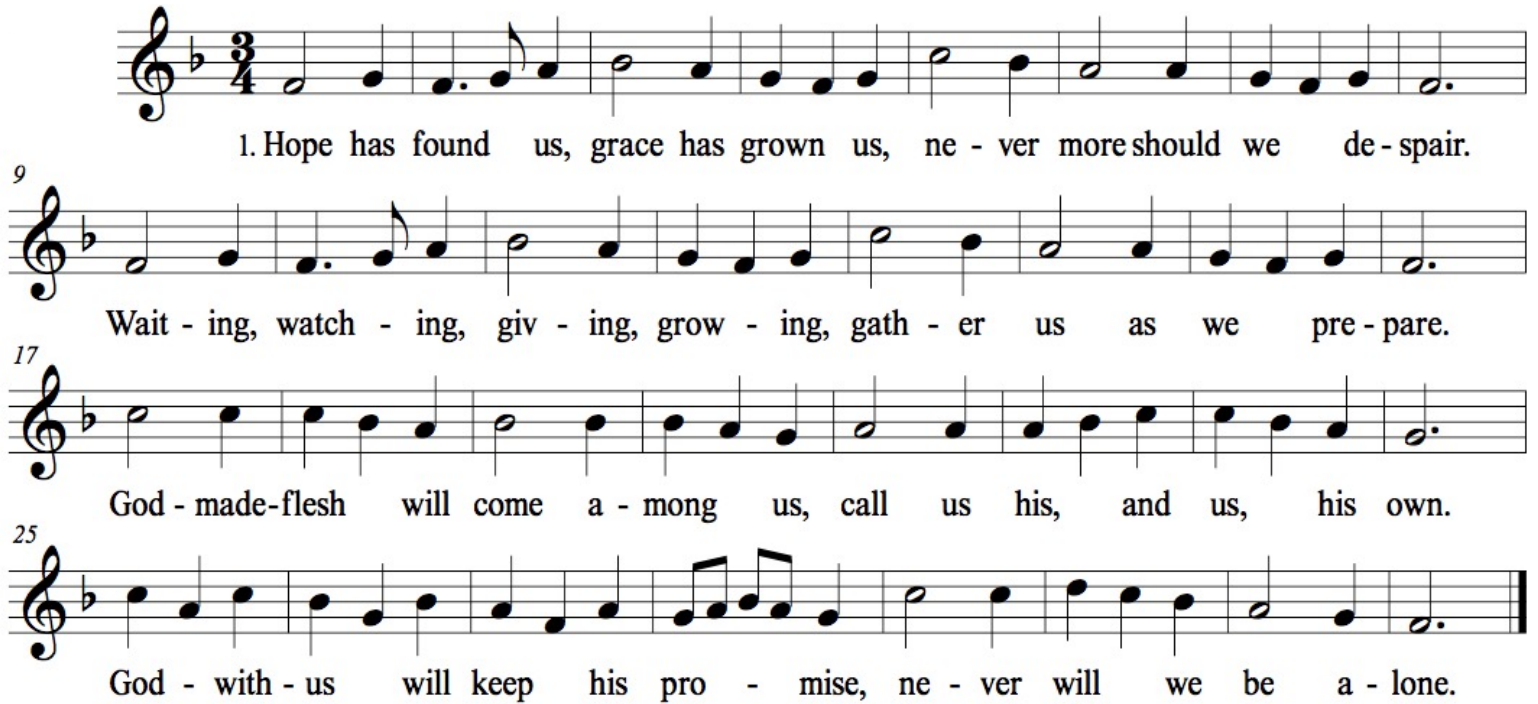
For - give us, Lord, for times when hope was lost, and mo - ments when we  
ne - ver thought to trust, for times when we des - pair and for - get that  
you are where all joy and truth have met. For - give, for - give, for -  
give us all our sins and help us hope and trust you with - out end.

### \*Assurance of Forgiveness (Responsive)

The prophet Jeremiah reminds us *Jeremiah 33:14-16*  
that the days are surely coming  
when God will fulfill the promise made to us.  
A righteous branch is springing up!  
**God shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.**  
**The Lord is our righteousness!**  
Friends, I proclaim to you that our sins are forgiven!  
**Alleluia! Amen!**

**\*Sung Response**

*Words by Stephen M. Fearing*



1. Hope has found us, grace has grown us, ne - ver more should we de - spair.  
 9 Wait - ing, watch - ing, giv - ing, grow - ing, gath - er us as we pre - pare.  
 17 God - made - flesh will come a - mong us, call us his, and us, his own.  
 25 God - with - us will keep his pro - mise, ne - ver will we be a - lone.

**\*The Peace**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, we also ought to forgive one another.  
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*— Please greet those around you —*

**Prayer for Illumination**

Guiding God,  
without the presence of your Holy Spirit,  
we are hopelessly lost on this Advent journey.  
Come to us in this place  
as we gather to hear your Word.  
Open our hearts to receive it  
and our minds to understand it. **Amen.**

**First Reading**      Jeremiah 33:14-16

pew Bible pg. ???

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

**Second Reading**      Psalm 25

pew Bible pg. ???

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

**Sermon**      “Lifting Up Hope”

Rev. Stephen M. Fearing

\*Hymn

“Lord, I Lift My Soul to You”

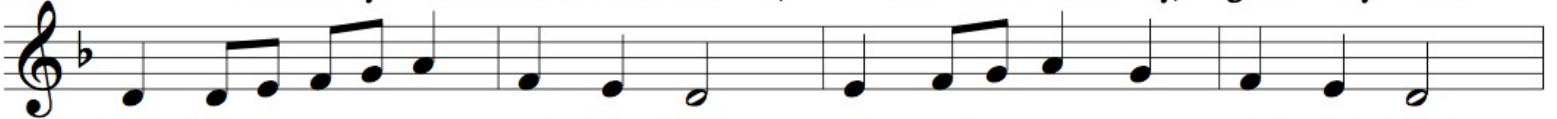
ABERYSTWYTH

*Paraphrase of Psalm 25 by Stephen M. Fearing, 2015*



1. Lord, I lift my soul to you; in your ho - ly name I trust.  
 2. Mer - ci - ful your acts, O Lord, bring sal - va - tion to my heart.  
 3. Re - call not my sins of late; help re - lease me from their hold.  
 4. Lone - ly and down - cast am I; act with mer - cy, guard my life.

5



Long I've known your paths are true; all your ways are good and just.  
 Wis - dom is my sole re - ward; from you may I ne'er de - part.  
 Save me from my dis - mal fate; keep me hum - ble, keep me bold.  
 On your good - ness I re - ly; help me in these times of strife.

9



Wait - ing ev - er for your love, lead me in your truth and grace.  
 May your pre - sence with me stay, your in - struct - ions fill my soul.  
 Al - ways to your face I gaze, look up - on your ser - vant now.  
 May re - demp - tion be my course, and my trou - bles be no more.

13



Per - fect guid - ance from a - bove, ev - er more in your em - brace.  
 Guide me, Lord, a - long the way, on - ly with you am I whole.  
 I shall fol - low all my days, this my on - ly, sol - emn vow.  
 With your grace my on - ly source, you will my new life re - store.

\*Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

Stephen M. Fearing

We believe that God has come to us;  
 that God brought us into being,  
 that this God gave us breath and purpose,  
 that we have been blessed to be a blessing to others,  
 that we have fallen short of this commandment  
 but that God has nevertheless loved us despite our brokenness.

We believe that God is coming to us;  
 that God is not happy to leave us alone,  
 that this God will come to us as a particular human being,  
 that God will be made known to us in flesh and bone like ours,  
 that Mary will soon give birth and Joseph will soon clap his hands in joy,  
 that Jesus Christ will be born and our salvation made complete.

We believe that God will come to us;  
 that God will have the final word and that Word will be good,  
 that this God will give us the presence of the Spirit to continue our work,  
 that we are called to be disciples to all the corners of the earth,  
 that the day is coming when tears and pain will be no more,  
 and all will gather at the Table to sing an endless and perfect “Alleluia!”

## **The Prayers of the People**

*Responsive Litany: “Gracious God, be mindful of your mercy.”*

## **Call to Offering**

## **The Offertory**

\*\*\*\*\*Please take a moment to fill out the friendship pads\*\*\*\*\*

## **\*The Doxology**

*Glory to God, No. 606*

## **\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

## **\*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 No. 93**

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

TRURO

## **\*Charge & Benediction**

## **Choral Benediction:**

## **Postlude**

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### **Questions for Reflection**

Even in the midst of trouble and turmoil, God allows us glimpses of the kingdom to come. What signs of promise do you see that bolster your hope in a new heaven and new earth?

### **Household Prayer: Morning**

Thank you for this new day to sing your praise and watch for signs of your kingdom. By your Spirit, let me abound in love for you and your children, that in living and loving I may point to your coming reign.  
In the name of Jesus I pray. Amen.

### **Household Prayer: Evening**

Thank you for the signs of your coming reign, and for the power of your saving love. Bless all those whom I met today, and strengthen their hope in your power

and grace. Now as I close my eyes, I relinquish all anxieties and fears, trusting in you providence and mercy. Amen.

**Information About Today's Worship Service**

Today's liturgy was written by Rev. Stephen M. Fearing, 2015 ([www.stephenmfearing.com](http://www.stephenmfearing.com))

The words to today's Sung Kyrie, Sung Response to the Assurance of Pardon, and hymn "Lord, I Lift My Soul to You" are copyrighted by Stephen M. Fearing, 2015. They can be found at his website, [www.stephenmfearing.com](http://www.stephenmfearing.com)

Today's questions for reflection and morning and evening household prayers are reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*. Copyright 2015.

*Thank you to our worship and fellowship leaders this morning!*

Assisting :

- Greeter: Terry Brockbank
- Usher: Kathy Brockbank
- Coffee Hour Host: Deacon's

Today's flowers are given by Webster Schott in memory of Susan Schott

**This week at Shelter Island Presbyterian Church:**

Sunday, September 13	Worship	10:30 a.m.
Monday, September 14	Engaging the Text	9:00 a.m.
	Building & Grounds Meeting	5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, September 15	UPW Meeting	10:30 a.m.
	Woman Community Club	12:00 p.m.
	Session Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Friday, September 18	AA	7:30 p.m.

**Looking Ahead:**

Sunday, September 20	Worship	10:30 a.m.
	Maureen's Haven	11:30 a.m.
	Coffee Hour and Mission Meeting	

**Shelter Island Presbyterian Church**

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*Office hours are on Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday;  
Administrative Assistant Karen Tudor works on  
Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.*

**Leadership Team of SIPC**

Rev. Stephen M. Fearing, Pastor

Linda Betjeman, Minister of Music

Karen Tudor, Administrative Assistant & Clerk of Session

Karin Bennett, Sexton

**Session**

**Class of 2015**

Lynn Franklin

Dan Binder

Chris Lewis

**Class of 2016**

Clarissa Tybaert

Ellen Gove

Laura Dickerson

**Class of 2017**

Hap Bowditch

Lee Anne Bastible

Laura Nelsen

**Deacons**

**Class of 2015**

Lynn Thomson

Alison Binder

Peter Vielbig

**Class of 2016**

Doreen McNemar

Colleen Smith

Charlotte Hannabury

**Class of 2017**

Rachel Brigham

Dana Hallman

Mark Switzer

**Congregational Nominating Committee**

Lee Anne Bastible, Carol Gray, Heather Reylek, Peter Vielbig

**SIPC Prayer List**

The nations in the Middle East, our planet, the men and women in the Armed Forces and our leaders. For Ashley Sanderson, Lindsay Ehrlich, Frank Catoe, Lisa Armour, Melissa Insinga, Audrey Trotman, Jim Gienko, Ruth Mattson, Tara Chituk, Jill Tuttle Albiani, Sue Speeches-Caddle, Paul Speeches, Leah Tabor and Tara Connolly.

*We will gladly list the names of any individuals in need of our prayers. You may share names with us by turning in a note from the pew or by calling the church office prior to Friday a.m. We will continue to list these names for 4 weeks and then they will be removed unless a specific request is made.*