

metro BAPTIST CHURCH

To all who are weary and need rest,
To all who mourn and need comfort,
To all who are lonely and need friendship,
To all who are complacent and need disturbing,
To all who sin and need a savior,
To all who are glad and would serve,
This church opens wide its doors.

First Sunday of Advent *November 29, 2026*

OPENING WORDS — Rev. Tiffany Triplett Henkel, *Pastor*

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRELUDE — "Emmanuel: Revealed in Us" — Jessica Taskov, Jesse Warkentin

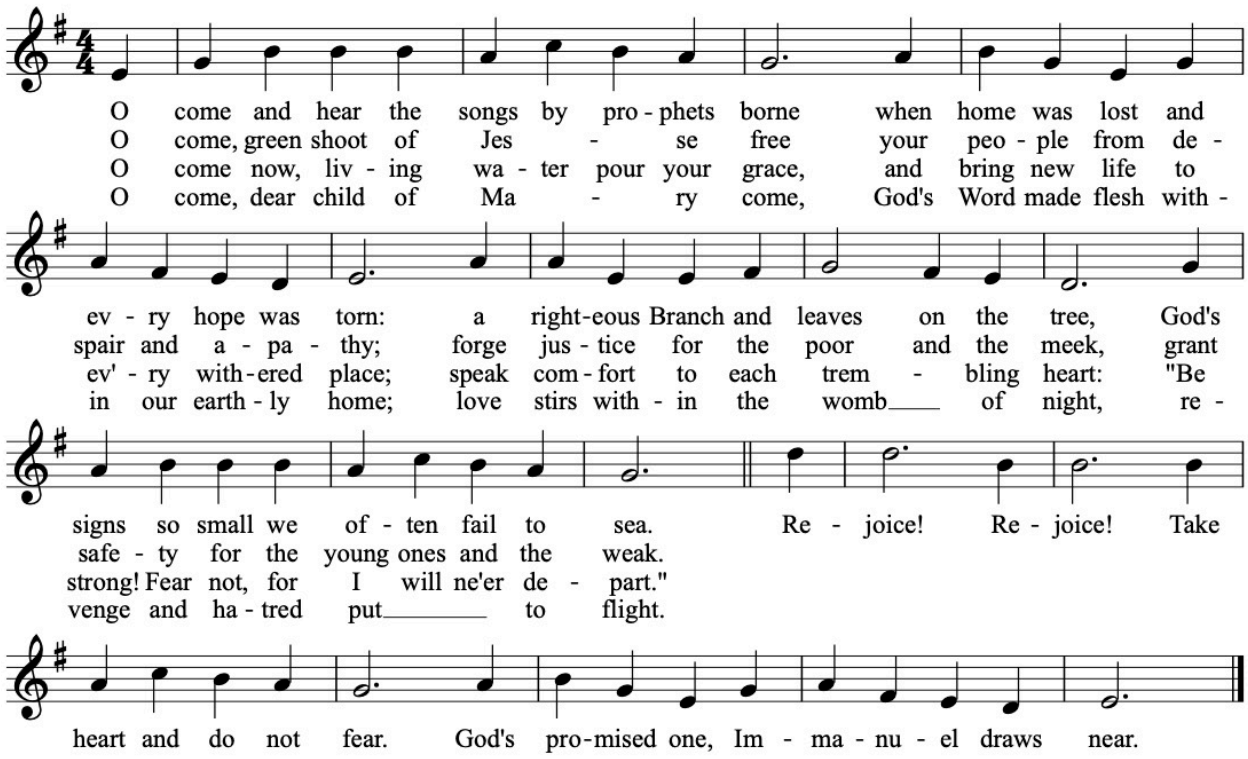
CALL TO WORSHIP

Wake up; wake up! The day of God is near.
We do not know the hour,
so we will live like the time is here and now.
Let us go to the house of our Living God.
We journey with all peoples of all creeds.
Let us go and bask in Holy Wisdom's warmth
so that we can learn her ways
and choose her paths.
To enter the house of God, we must wake up
to the nightmare of hate and violence;
all oppression must cease.
We will beat our weapons into tools for love.
With expectation, we hope for the day
we take down the walls we raise against each other,
and build a home where all can live freely.

PRAYER — Laura Bergquist, *Deacon*

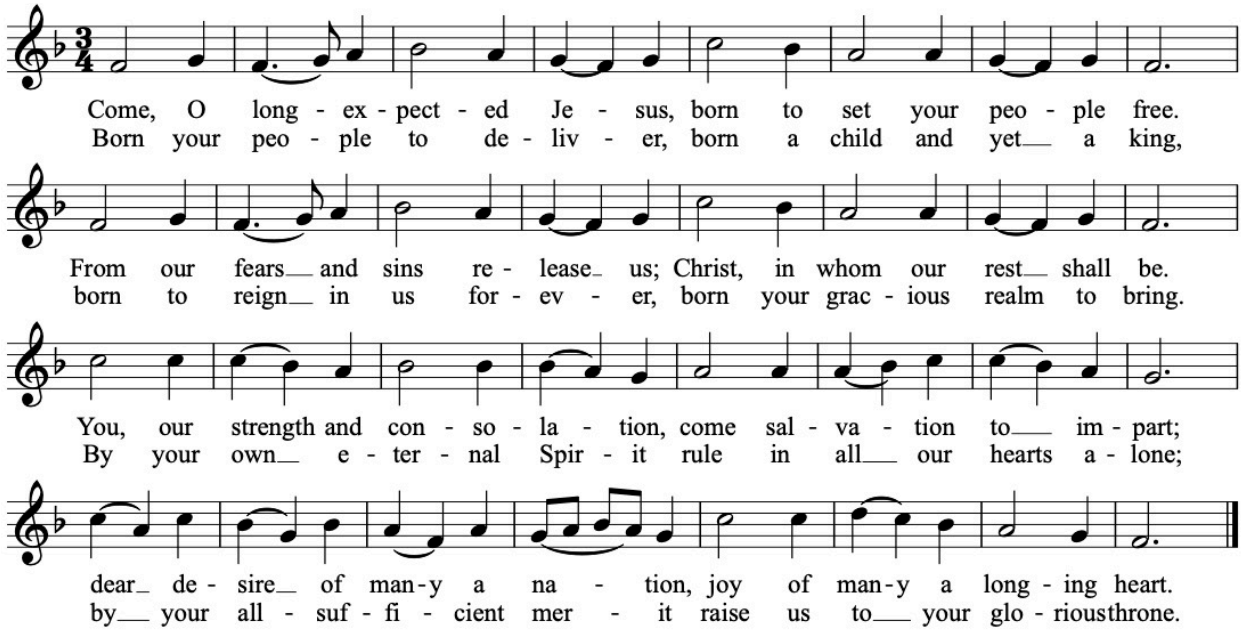
** Please stand as you are able.*

*HYMN "O Come, O Come, Immanuel"



*PASSING THE PEACE - HANGING OF THE GREENS - CAROLING

Please return to your seats during the final carol, "Come, O Long Expected Jesus"



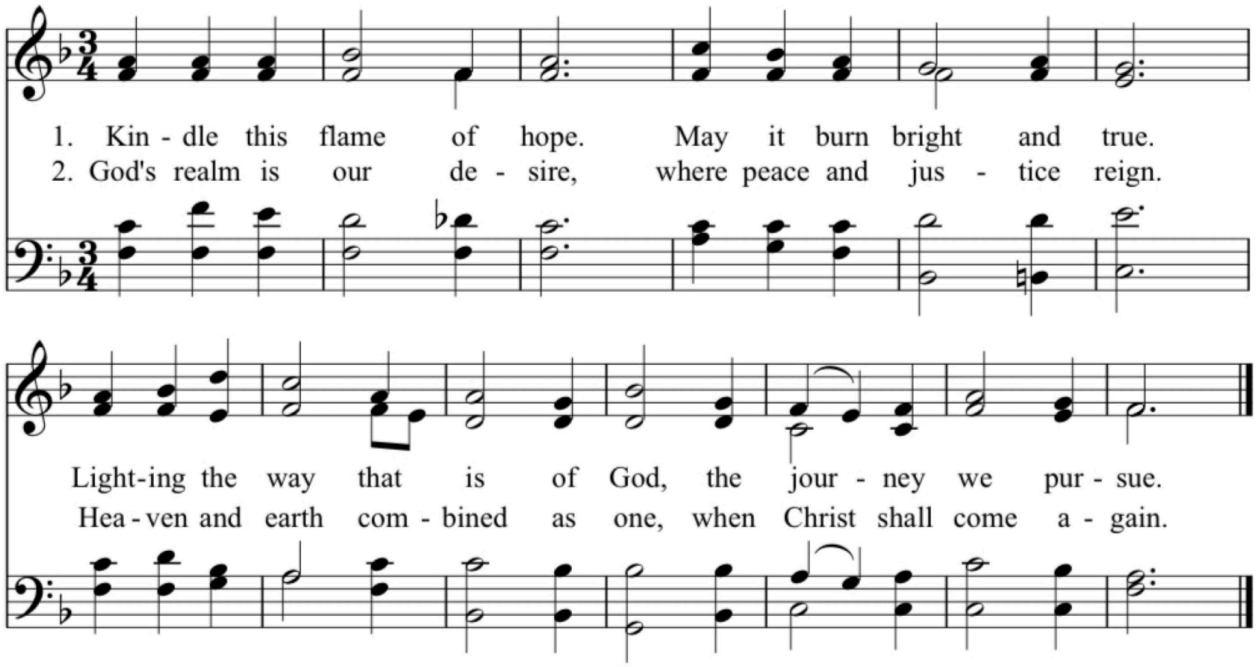
LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY — Susan Rutter

Welcome Survey
https://forms.gle/XQuFx98vDEUvyHy

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF HOPE — Grace Cai and Arthur Wu

Today we light the first candle, the candle of Hope.
In a world full of danger and uncertainty ,
our hearts easily fill up with fear and despair.
We need Hope to keep us in step with God.
We light this candle, not as a naïve token of optimism, but of grounded Hope.
Optimism easily slips into the posture that if we close our eyes tight enough
the suffering will go away, but not Hope.
Hope is anchored in the Good News of Advent. Hope is anchored in the One who was born to right wrongs, enact justice and make peace.
We light the candle of Hope because our Hope is real, just like the very real child who was born in a stable those many years ago.
As the light begins to gather, may our fear and despair be met compassionately, and our Hope be kindled anew.

Response — "Kindle the Flame"



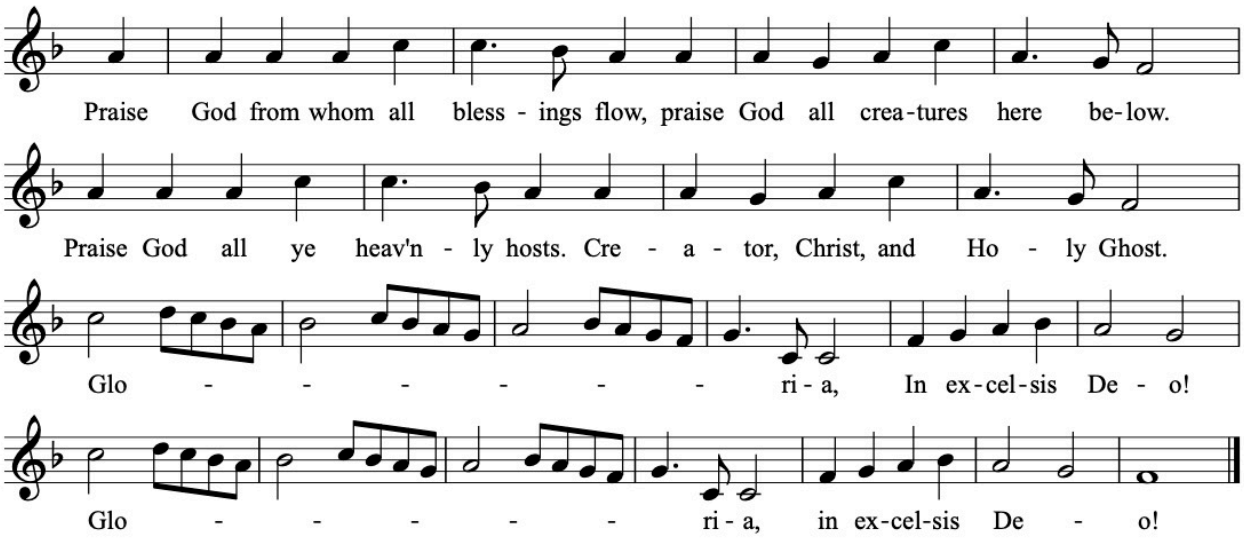
COVENANT OF CONCERNS AND THANKSGIVINGS

PASTORAL PRAYER — Rev. Tiffany Triplett Henkel

OFFERTORY "Sing We Now of Christmas" Jessica Taskov, *flute*
"God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"

Online Giving
http://mbcnyc.org/get-involved/give

*DOXOLOGY



SCRIPTURE Mark 13:24-37 Deborah Doering

SERMON "The Beginning Times" Rev. Jana Dye
Pastor

*HYMN "The Promise of the Lord" See Insert

CLOSING WORDS & BENEDICTION Rev. Jana Dye

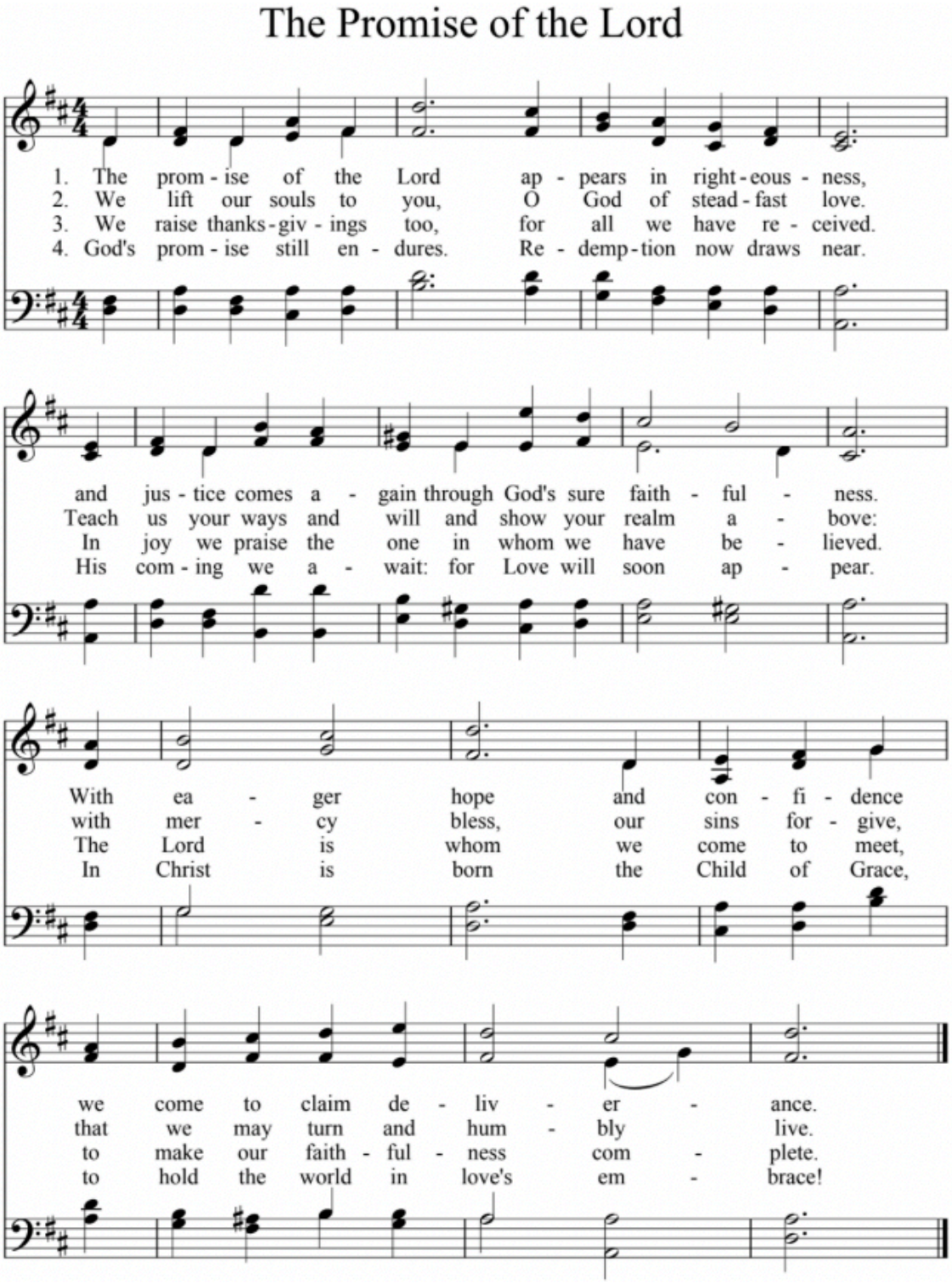
POSTLUDE "Overture for Advent" Jessica Taskov
Jesse Warkentin

Service Notes

The Cover Art is "Stay Awake", a painting by Ronald Raab.
Prelude: Music includes hymn tune *Veni Emmanuel*, and "Emmanuel" by Bob McGee. Arrangement by Joel Raney.
Call to worship is adapted from a liturgy written by **The Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)** from ***Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching, and the Arts*** **(First Sunday of Advent, November 30, 2025)**.
"O Come, O Come, Immanuel," text by Barbara Lundblad. French Melody arr. and har. by Thomas Helmore.
Candle reading is adapted from a liturgy written by Andrew T. Gates.
"Kindle the Flame" is by Gary L. Lake Dillensnyder (words) and Robert Jackson (music).
"Sing We Now of Christmas": Music is *Noël Nouvelet*, a traditional French melody.
"God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" is a traditional English melody. Arranged by Brant Adams.

“The Promise of the Lord” is by F. Richard Garland (words) and John Darwall (music).
Postlude is arranged by Camp Kirkland.
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The Promise of the Lord



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Join us each Sunday in December for worship focused on the coming and birth of Immanuel, God with Us. Each of the services listed below will begin at 11:00 AM Eastern and can be attended in person or via Zoom (***except Dec. 27 which is Zoom only***): https://mbcnyc.org/congregational-life/worship-at-metro

November 29 - HOPE: Hanging of the Green & Pastor Jana, *Preacher*
December 6 - PEACE: Choral Service & Metrovian Love Feast
December 13 - JOY: Rev. Kym McNair, *Guest Preacher*
December 20 - LOVE: Pastor Tiffany, *Preacher*
December 27 - FULLY VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM



Advent Devotional Guide

The publication of an Advent Devotional Guide is one of Metro's most beloved traditions. Again, this year, our hope is that this guide will help us feel nearer to God and one another as we share how the Spirit is speaking to us through our words, our music, our art or other unique reflections. You are invited to contribute to this year's Advent Devotional Guide. To learn more and sign up for one (or more) dates, click here: http://mbcnyc.org/advent-guide.



Deacon Nominations- Due December 13th

Metro Baptist Church Deacons are a vital part of the life of our congregation, as they lead in our caring ministry to one another. We are currently collecting nominations for MBC Deacons. **All active voting members are eligible to nominate and to serve as a deacon.** Nomination forms have been emailed to those who are eligible and are available in the sanctuary today and are **due December 13**. If you need a ballot or information about how to nominate online, please contact one of our pastors or Deacon Chair, Julia O'Brien.



Winter Clothing Closet is Open!

Most TUESDAYS (November 3, 2026 - March 23, 2027)
Distribution: 1:15-2:30 PM I Volunteer Needs: 12:30-3:30 PM

RMM's Winter Clothing Closet is officially open and we need YOUR HELP!

CLOTHING DONATIONS: We are in great need of the following new or gently used clothing items for adults: heavy winter coats, sweatshirts/sweaters, joggers/jeans, t-shirts, hats, gloves, scarves and underwear. You can drop off donations here at Metro (bin in rear of sanctuary).

VOLUNTEERS: Each TUESDAY, we will be in need of 15-20 volunteers to help distribute clothing to those in need. **You can sign up for one or more volunteer opportunities by scanning QR above.**



Carols and Cocktails

Sunday, December 6th Immediately after worship

Back by popular demand! Join us after worship for a time of music and fellowship. Jesse Warkentin will be taking requests for hymns and carols for all to sing along to and a light assortment of refreshments will be provided. We also ask that those who are able bring a snack and favorite drink (alcoholic or nonalcoholic) to share. Please email Pastor Jana (jdye@mbcnyc.org) if you have any questions.



Metro Mindfulness: A Blue Christmas Service

Tuesday, December 15 at 7:00 PM

Join us for a time of reflective worship and contemplation led by our Metro Mindfulness team. As we embrace the joy and celebration that can come along with the holiday season, we also cherish the opportunity to acknowledge the heavier feelings we tend to carry this time of year. This will be an evening to slow down and pause, a time to honor our grief and lament with thoughtful music and liturgy. All are welcome.



Let's Celebrate our Metro November Birthdays!

We're sending a huge Happy Birthday to all those in our beloved community who are celebrating another year of life this month!!

- Maren Holmen - November 4
- Kathy Conry - November 15
- Claire McConnell - November 18

Have a birthday this month but don't see your name above? Click here to add your birthday information or reach out to one of your Pastors so we can celebrate you as well!



Annual Giving Monthly Update

Thank you for supporting the ministry and work of Metro Baptist Church through your tithes and offerings. For more questions regarding our stewardship efforts & focus, please feel free to reach out to Metro Trustee Sara Day (saraday468@gmail.com).

General offerings as of October 2026: $244,216.59
Total Amount Budgeted for 2026: $270,000.00

Metro Baptist Church

410 W. 40th Street, New York, NY 10018 I 212-594-4464
www.mbcnyc.org I mbc@mbcnyc.org
Rauschenbusch Metro Ministries: www.rmmnyc.org
Hell's Kitchen Farm Project: www.hkfp.org

Affiliated and partnered with the Alliance of Baptists and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Evie Bergquist	PROGRAM ASSISTANT
Rev. Jana Dye	PASTOR
Stephena George	PROGRAM ASSISTANT
J'Quay Gibbs	FOOD & JUSTICE ASSOCIATE
Rev. Tiffany Triplett Henkel	PASTOR
Anita Massengill	WORSHIP LEADER
Cathy McGaughey	FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR
Rev. Dr. Troy Messenger	HYBRID WORSHIP COORDINATOR
Rev. LuAnne Prevost	PROGRAM MINISTRY COORDINATOR
Marshall Vargas	PROGRAM ASSISTANT
Jesse Warkentin	WORSHIP LEADER