

ADVENT 1 SUNDAY / SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

November 28, 2021

Organ Prelude: Wake, awake for night is flying

J. S. Bach

Welcome, Announcements & Worship Theme

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Advent is here. It is a time of preparation, preparation for the coming of Christ.

Christ is coming, but how will we recognize him?

Christ comes in every breathe of new life, every child, every opportunity to serve love and justice.

Christ also comes, hidden and revealed in every crisis of life, crisis in our personal lives or crisis in our collective lives. Christ summons us to serve his love and justice especially in times of crisis.

But will we have enough faith and hope in the power of his love to rise up and bless the world because of what he can make possible in and through us in times of crisis?

May this time of worship light the candle of faith and hope in us as we anticipate the coming of Christ, a candle that will become a flame.

Let us worship God together!

Lighting of the first Advent Candle – the candle of hope

**(Hymn 119, v.1) Hope is a star that shines in the night,
Leading us on till the morning is bright.**

When God is a child there's joy in our song.

**The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
And none shall be afraid.**

**1. Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lowly exile here,
until the Son of God appear.**

Refrain:

Rejoice, rejoice!

**Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.**

**2. Oh come, oh come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe. (R)**

**6. Oh come, thou Dayspring,
come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
(R)**

**7. Oh come, desire of nations, bind
all peoples in one heart, one mind;
bid envy, strife and discord cease,
and be thyself our source of peace. (R)**

Prayer of Approach, Confession & 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Peace of Christ be with you all;

And also with you.

The Baptism of Catherine Elizabeth Jefferson

Children's Theme for Church School

Special Music: "Comfort ye" and "Ev'ry Valley" from Messiah

G. F. Handel

soloist Elias Theocharidis

Scripture Readings: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Luke 21:25-36

Jeremiah 33:14

14 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 15 In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in

the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.' Amen.

Luke 21:25-36

²⁵ 'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see "the Son of humanity coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ 'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Humanity.' Amen.

We are listening, O God;

Speak to us!

Sermon:

CRISIS AND NEW LIFE

Dr. Harris

Special Music: There's a great day coming

Will Thompson

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Pastoral Concern

***Hymn: Hail to the Lord's Anointed (vs. 1, 2, 3, 5)**

No. 115

**1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son;
hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free,
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.**

**2. He brings salvation speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
he saves the poor and needy,
and helps the weak be strong;
they sing who once were sighing,
their darkness turned to light,
for they, who once were dying,
are precious in his sight.**

3. He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth.
Before him on the mountains
shall peace, the herald, go,
and righteousness, in fountains,
from hill to valley flow.

5. O'er every foe victorious,
Christ on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious,
all blessing and all blest:
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever:
that name to us is Love.

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Organ Postlude: Te Deum (prelude)

Marc-Antoine Charpentier

**Remain seated if you are more comfortable*

Thank you to Dr. Harris and Rev. Rebecca, our musicians, Bruce Nasmith, Anna Bateman, Erin Stone, Elias Theocharidis, and Christopher Tanaka-Mann, and Kome Abel for operating the sanctuary camera.

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