



Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ

Worship ~ 1st Sunday of Advent
Sunday, November 28, 2021

Pastor: Bruce Farrell
Ministers: All the Faithful Members

1588 Mount Zion Road, Lebanon, PA 17046 717-865-3286 www.ziongosherts.org

*Please stand if you are able. Congregation, please speak or sing the words in **bold**.

PRELUDE

Tara Zimmerman

WELCOME (Ringing of the Bell)

*CALL TO WORSHIP: Waiting in Hope

[adapted from Psalm 33:20; Romans 8:25; Titus 2:11-13; Micah 7:7]

Pastor: Come, it is Advent, a season of waiting, of getting ready. Glory Lord, Jesus. Our praises go to You alone!

People: What are we waiting for?

Pastor: We wait in hope for the Lord Who is our help and our shield. Hope for what we do not yet have; wait for it patiently.

People: Where is our hope?

Pastor: The grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to live godly lives in this present age while we wait for the blessed hope – the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

All: But as for me, I watch in hope for the Lord. I wait for God my Savior.

*HYMN

Come, O Long Expected Jesus

**Come, O long expected Jesus, born to set Your people free.
From our fears and sins release us. Free us from captivity.
Israel's strength and consolation, You, the hope of all the earth,
Dear Desire of ev'ry nation, come and save us by Your birth.**

**Born Your people to deliver; born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever, now Your gracious Kingdom bring.
By Your own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone.
By Your all sufficient merit, raise us to Your glorious throne.**

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Robert and Helen Simpson

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.]

WE JOIN WITH NEW MEMBERS

SONGS

Sweet By and By

Bill Arnold and Jason Dermes, guitar

**¹There's a land that is fairer than day and by faith we can see it afar,
For the Father waits over the way to prepare us a dwelling place there.**

Refrain: ***In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.
In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.***

**²To our bountiful Father above, we will offer our tribute of praise
For the glorious gift of His love and the blessings that hallow our days. [Refrain]**

Do Lord

I gotta home in glory land that outshines the sun. [Repeat two more times.] ... way beyond the blue (horizon).

Do Lord, O do Lord, O do remember me? [Repeat two more times.]... way beyond the blue (horizon).

I took Jesus as my Savior; you take Him, too. [Repeat two more times.]... while He's calling you.

This Little Light of Mine

[a cappella]

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. [Repeat two more times.]... Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Do you ever get tired?

CONFESSION

[from Psalm 63:1-8, 11a]

Pastor: You, God, are my God. I earnestly seek You.

People: I thirst for You; my whole being longs for You in a dry and parched place.

Pastor: I have seen You in the sanctuary and beheld Your power and Your glory.

People: Because Your love is better than life, my lips will glorify You.

Pastor: I will praise You as long as I live. In Your Name I will lift up my hands.

People: I will be fully satisfied as I am with the richest food. With singing, my mouth will praise You.

Pastor: On my bed I remember you. I think of You through the night.

People: Because You are my help, I sing in the shadow of Your wings.

Pastor: I cling to You; Your right hand upholds me.

People: I will rejoice in You; I will glory in You.

Pastor: We confess, Jesus, that, all too often, this is not a picture of us. As we remember and wait for Your coming, may we know that we can wait in hope and trust since You have already kept Your promises to us.

SCRIPTURE: Luke 12:35-40

SONGS

Standing on the Promises

Bill Arnold and Jason Dermes, guitar

**¹Standing on the promises of Christ, my King, through eternal ages, let His praises ring.
"Glory in the highest!" I will shout and sing, standing on the promises of God.**

Refrain: *Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God, my Savior.
Standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.*

**²Standing on the promises that cannot fail. When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
By the living Word of God I shall prevail, standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]**

**³ Standing on the promises I cannot fall. List'ning ev'ry moment to the Spirit's call.
Resting in my Savior as my All in All, standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]**

Tis So Sweet

**¹Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take Him at His word;
just to rest upon His promise and to know, "Thus saith the Lord."**

Refrain: *Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust Him more!*

**² O how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust His cleansing blood;
and in simple faith to plunge me 'neath the healing, cleansing flood! [Refrain]**

**³ I'm so glad I learned to trust You, Precious Jesus, Savior, Friend.
And I know that You are with me, will be with me to the end. [Refrain]**

SERMON: Waiting ~ Active Waiting

GOD'S WORD ON GIVING

[Luke 12:35]

Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning,

PRAYERS of the people and pastoral prayer

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father Who is in heaven, hallowed be Your Name.

Your kingdom come; Your 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.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

*HYMN

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

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

Refrain: ***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!***

**² O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by Your advent here.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death's dark shadows put to flight. [Refrain]**

**³ O come, O Wisdom from on high, Who orders all things, far and nigh.
To us the path of knowledge show and cause us in Her ways to go. [Refrain]**

**⁴ O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind.
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease. Fill the whole world with heaven's peace. [Refrain]**

BENEDICTION

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.

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE and THE POSTLUDE

Citations for Worship 2021.11.28

Come, O Long Expected Jesus. Words: Charles Wesley. TUNE: HYFRDOL William Pritchard (1830). Public Domain.

Sweet By and By. Words: Sanford Fillmore Bennett (1868). TUNE: SWEET BY AND BY Joseph Filbrick Webster (1868). Public Domain.

Do Lord and This Little Light of Mine. African American spirituals. Public Domain.

Standing on the Promises. Words and music: Russell Kelso Carter (1886). Public Domain.

Tis So Sweet. Words: Louisa M R Stead (1882). TUNE: William Kirkpatrick (1882). Public Domain.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel. Words: Latin, 2nd century. Tr: J.M. Neale (1851). TUNE: VENI EMMANUEL French professional 15th century. Public Domain.

Some concepts and prayers adapted from Walker, Rev. Chris (September 2021). What are you waiting for? *Reformed Worship (141)* © Worship Ministries of the Christian Reformed Church. Used by permission. Retrieved 2021.11.23 from <https://www.reformedworship.org/article/september-2021/what-are-you-waiting>
The Holy Bible, New International Version. © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.