



November 27, 2022 • 11 a.m.

The Waiting that Leads to Wonder
First Sunday in Advent: Hope

PRELUDE CHORALE PRELUDE ON "WACHET AUF" *Johann Sebastian Bach*
("Wake, awake, for night is flying") (1685–1750)

CHORALE PRELUDE ON "ES IST EIN' ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN" *Johannes Brahms*
("Lo, how a rose e'er blooming") (1833–1897)

➤ Please rise in body, mind, or spirit, as you are able, for every hymn. ➤

PROCESSIONAL HYMN COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS *"Stuttgart"*
(see next page)

CALL TO WORSHIP *Kristin Bottemiller*

One: As the earth turns away from light and the days grow shorter, we enter into the holy season of Advent. Hope is where Advent begins.

***All:* We light our first Advent candle and pray for hope to illuminate our lives.**

One: God invites us to summon our hope within so we can share it with each other.

***All:* The source of God's love is deep and there is grace for all.**

One: God's light is present even in the places where despair threatens our hope.

***All:* May we respond to God's hope with wonder and anticipation, immersed in beloved community, as we enter this season of blessed waiting.**

➤ Please be seated. ➤

ADVENT CANDLE PRAYER: HOPE

COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

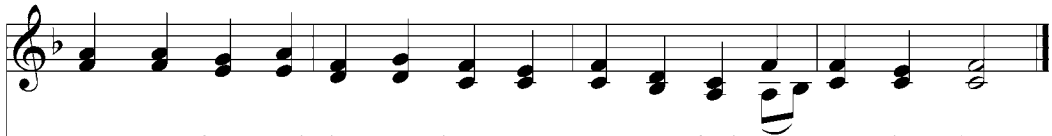
Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

STUTTGART 8.7.8.7.

Melody attr. to Christian F. Witt, 1660-1716
"Psalmodia Sacra," Gotha, 1715



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth thou art;
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in thee.
Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now on earth thy glo - ry bring.
By thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to thy glo - rious throne.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Tender, loving God, 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 for ever. Amen.

ADVENT CANDLE RESPONSE

INTROIT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Robert Wetzler
(1964)

Unto Thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul; O my God, I trust in Thee; let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me; yea, let none that wait on Thee be ashamed.

Show me Thy ways, O Lord; teach me Thy paths.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Beth Hoffman Faeth

ANTHEM

BLESSED BE THE TIME

Neil Butterworth
(1977)

Mark this song, for it is true as clerkes tell;
In olden times strange things came to pass in Israel.

Blessed be the time.

By prophesy, one Isaiah did tell,
A child should come, O wondrous news;
That should be born the king of the Jews in Israel.

Blessed be the time.

The time came, it pleased God to come to pass,
For our souls indeed, God's Son was born,
As God's will was, in Israel.

Blessed be the time.

—Medieval English text

SCRIPTURE READING

MATTHEW 24:36–42

SERMON

THE WAITING THAT LEADS TO WONDER: HOPE

Seth Patterson

OFFERTORY

LACHRIMAE AMANTIS (Tears of the Lover)

Ian Kellam
(1997)

Maria Jette, Lisa Drew, Dan Dressen, and James Bohn, *soloists*, and Choir

What is it in my heart that you should sue so fiercely for its love?
What kind of care brings you as though a stranger to my door through
this long night and in the icy dew seeking the heart that will not harbor
you, that keeps itself religiously secure?

At this dark solstice filled with frost and fire your passion's ancient
wounds must bleed anew.

So many nights the angel of my house has fed such urgent comfort
through a dream, whispered, "your Lord is coming, he is close" that I
have drowsed half-faithful for a time bathed in pure tones of promise
and remorse: "tomorrow I shall wake and welcome him."

—Lope de Vega Carpio, 1562–1613, reworked by Geoffrey Hill

☞ Please rise in body, mind, or spirit, as you are able. ☞

DOXOLOGY

“Dix”

**Praise to God, immortal praise, for the love that crowns our days!
Bounteous source of every joy, let thy praise our tongues employ;
Singing thus through all our days: Praise to God, immortal praise! Amen.**

☞ Please be seated. ☞

PASTORAL PRAYER

RECESSIONAL HYMN REJOICE, REJOICE, BELIEVERS! *“Haf trones lampa färdig”*
(see next page)

COVENANT BLESSING

**We covenant with you, O God, and one with another, and do bind
ourselves in your presence to walk together in all your ways, according
as you are pleased to reveal yourself to us in your blessed word of truth.**
—based on the Salem Covenant of 1629

As the postlude is played, you are welcome to leave the sanctuary or stay and enjoy the music.

POSTLUDE O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL *Evelyn Simpson-Curenton*
(2004)

TODAY’S MUSIC: *Our traditional introit for the first Sunday in Advent was composed by Minneapolis composer Robert Wetzler, who celebrated his 90th birthday this year. Today’s anthems are by English composers Ian Kellam and Neil Butterworth. Kellam’s anthems and hymns are often sung at Plymouth Church; this anthem focuses on the winter solstice and was composed for Olivet Congregational Church in Saint Paul. Butterworth was for many years the head of the music department at Napier College in Edinburgh and writer of program notes for the Scottish Chamber Orchestra. The postlude was composed by Evelyn Simpson-Curenton, African American organist and composer living in Washington, D.C.*



REJOICE, REJOICE, BELIEVERS!

Laurentius Laurenti, 1700
Tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1854, alt.

HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG 7.6.7.6.D.
Swedish Folk Melody



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers! And let your lights ap - pear;
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, Re - plen - ish them with oil;
3 All you who wait God's com - ing, Re - hearse the joy - ful song,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing And dark - er night is near.
Look now for your sal - va - tion, The end of sin and toil.
Which we shall sing in glo - ry With all the an - gel throng.
A - rise, O Sun so longed for, A - bove this dark - ened sphere!



The Lord is now a - ris - ing, And quick - ly will draw nigh.
The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the Lord is near.
The ho - ly feast is wait - ing, The gates wide o - pen stand.
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



Up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! At mid - night comes the cry.
Go greet the Sav - ior, com - ing With al - le - lu - ias clear.
Rise up, o heirs of glo - ry! The Sav - ior is at hand.
The day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets your peo - ple free.



PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES that we are on the sacred traditional territory of the Dakota people. It is an honor to live, pray, seek justice, and create community alongside Dakota, Ojibwe, and other Indigenous people in the Twin Cities.

CHANCEL FLOWERS are given in loving memory of Rev. Joel D. Albers by his parents, Sonia and Bob Albers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS are available on the church website.

WORSHIP STAFF: DeWayne L. Davis, *Lead Minister*; Beth Hoffman Faeth, *Minister for Congregational Care & Worship*; Seth Patterson, *Minister for Spiritual Formation & Theater*; Philip Brunelle, *Organist and Choirmaster*; Marie Scholtz, *Associate Music Director & First Service Music Coordinator*; Laura Caviani, *First Service Trio Director*; Cody Bourdot, *A/V Production Manager*; Chris Bohnhoff, *Digital Ministry Specialist*

ADULT CHOIR: Philip Brunelle, *director*; **SOLO QUINTET:** Maria Jette & Kathryn Rupp, *soprano*; Lisa Drew, *alto*; Dan Dressen, *tenor*; and James Bohn, *bass*

CHURCH REGISTER

RECENTLY BEREAVED

Haley & Tim Brunelle, death of Haley's father, Stan Drab (November 22, 2022); Maks, Eli, and Felix Brunelle, death of grandfather

RECENTLY DECEASED

Barbara Haglund (November 14, 2022)

Mary Lou Mathison

Hans Melgaard (November 10, 2022), father of Rebecca Melgaard Newton, Christine Melgaard, Hans Melgaard, Timothy Melgaard, and Andrew Melgaard

HOME AND HOSPITAL VISITS: Plymouth's ministers call upon members of the church in their homes, in hospitals or care and rehabilitation centers. If you know of someone who would like a visit from a minister, please contact Rev. Beth Hoffman Faeth (612/871-7400).

