



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
First Sunday of Advent
HOPE
November 29, 2020

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin
Senior Minister

MUSIC OF PREPARATION

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne
Mr. Rick Massengale, organ

E. S. Elliot

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Martin

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

WATCHET AUF

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Dr. Martin and **People**

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promises I have made.

To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls: In you, O God, we trust.

The one who is coming will show us the path of steadfast love and faithfulness.

Teach us your ways, O God of our salvation.

We light this candle in the sure hope that God's promises endure.

We will live in the light of hope as we await the coming of the Lord.

Congregational Sung Response:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

***HYMN**

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

*Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.*



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*Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever; now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

Dr. Martin and People

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy *catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. **universal UMH 881*

***GLORIA PATRI**

MEINEKE

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:

“The peace of Christ be with you.” “And also with you.”

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Dr. Martin

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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

O Dayspring

Karen Marroli

*Come, O Dayspring, and break forth amid the depths of night.
Come inflame the darkness with harmonies of light.*

*Rise like dawn in starlight to wake the slumbering soul.
Come, O come, O Dayspring, and make our spirits whole.*

*O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadows put to flight.*

***DOXOLOGY**

OLD 100th

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Dr. Martin and **People**

**Lord, open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that, as the Scriptures are read
and your Word proclaimed,
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

***SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Mark 13:24-37

Dr. Martin

*²⁴“But in those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.*

²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Carry the Light: Wake Up

Dr. Martin

***HYMN**

Awake, O Sleeper

DOVE OF PEACE

*Awake, O sleeper, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
so learn his love, its length and breadth, its fullness, depth, and height,
its fullness, depth, and height.*

*To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear release,
to give the Spirit’s unity, the very bond of peace,
the very bond of peace.*

*There is one body and one hope, one Spirit and one call,
one love, one faith, one baptism, one Father of us all,
one Father of us all.*

*Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save,
with kind and gentle hearts forgive as God in Christ forgave,
as God in Christ forgave.*

*For us Christ lived, for us he died, and conquered in the strife.
Awake, arise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life,
and Christ shall give you life.*

***BENEDICTION**

Dr. Martin

POSTLUDE

Wake, Awake!

Felix Mendelssohn, Philipp Nicolai

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

*Please exit by the chancel only.
Place bulletin in recycling bin or take it with you.
Offerings will be received by the chancel as you exit.*

Please remember in your prayers:

Billy Arnold
Van Askew
Carolyn Broady
Annelle Burch
Joe Byers

Quentin Cash
Richard Clayton
Summer Dorsey
Howard Dunham
Margaret Grainger

Martha Hale
Cindy Jennings
Doris Kerlin
Lurlene Perry
Claudia Rhodes

Norma Saunders
Mabel Wilbanks
Brad Wilkinson



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