



Seventh & James Baptist Church
November 27, 2022 · 11:00 a.m.
The First Sunday of Advent

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Chiming of the Hour

Meditation

“Wachet Auf, Ruft Uns Die Stimme”
(Sleepers Wake, A Voice Is Calling) BWV 645

J.S. Bach

Euridice Alvarez Izcoa, *oboe*
Lydia Bratcher, *organ*

Lighting the Candle of Hope

Carolien Tantra and David Chrisna
Dillan Damping
Hendra Tantra

Light is itself a thing of hope: casting out darkness in faith that something worthy of illumination will show up. We light the candle of hope this day as a symbol of our hope in all days: God has filled the world with beauty that reveals the face and heart of the Creator. The artist’s spirit laid bare in every stroke. Let the light of our hope awaken us to the splendor all around: in every creeping creature, in each motley sunset, in the lilting of the birds’ songs, in the smile and tears of your neighbor. We light this candle and defy the darkness in our world.

Welcome and Call to Worship

Matt Rosencrans

One: Beloved child of God, you are welcome here....

Many: We give thanks to God for bringing us into this moment of worship.

One: For no matter who you are or where you’ve been, you matter to God and to us.

Many: Our hearts rejoice and give thanks for all those who have come before us and made a place for us to worship, pray, sing, wonder, doubt, believe, and just be.

One: May the love of God through Christ our Lord convince you of your worth and invitation into this body of believers as we worship together in thanksgiving and hope.

Choral Summons

“E’en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come”

Paul Manz

Processional Hymn, No. 87

“Arise, Your Light Is Come”

Litany of Hope

Bill Cooper

One: We read these aspirational passages; visions told by prophets of old and we cannot help but wonder...how long?

Many: Lord give us hope beyond the present; and urgency for today.

One: It seems the scourge of violence has always been part and parcel of this all too human condition. We curse with Cain and forget we are able to rise above what would divide us and see our common hearts united in God's Grace and love.

Many: Break open our patterns of thought and blow your Spirit of peace through this gathering of potential peace-makers.

One: Make it today...let it begin now even as it flows to us from ages past and pushes us toward hope for years to come.

**All: We open our hearts and our hands in anticipation of receiving from you...
O Come, O Come Emmanuel...**

— *Sacred Seasons 2022*, a Seeds of Hope Publication

Meditation

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

arr. Mark Hayes

Carolien Tantra, *piano*

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

Joshua Leikam

Epistle Reading

Romans 13:11-14

Sasha Lubaev

Hymn, No. 79

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Gospel Reading

Matthew 24:36-44

Scott Turner

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Prayers of God's People

Scott Turner

Offertory

“Aria (Light One Candle to Wait for Messiah)”

Michael Burkhardt

Euridice Alvarez Izcoa, *oboe*

Lydia Bratcher, *organ*

Offering plates are available at the doors of the sanctuary as you leave worship.

Doxology

(Sung to Veni Emmanuel, tune of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel")

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Children's Sermon

Leslie Rosencrans

*All children are invited to come forward for the Children's Sermon.
Preschoolers [ages 4-kindergarten] may then go to Extended Session.*

Responsive Reading of Psalm 122

Erin Conaway

One: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

Many: Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

One: Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together.

**Many: To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.**

One: For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David.

Many: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

One: Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers."

**All: For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you."
For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.**

Anthem

"He Comes to Us"

Jane Marshall

He comes to us as One unknown, without a name, as of old,
By the lakeside He came to those men who knew him not.
He speaks to us, He speaks the same word:
"Follow. Follow Thou me!" and sets us to the tasks
Which He has to fulfill for our time.
He commands. And to those who obey Him, whether they be
Wise or simple, He will reveal Himself in the toils,
The conflicts, the sufferings, which they shall pass through
In His fellowship, and as an ineffable mystery,
They shall learn in their own experience who He is.
O Morning Star, how fair and bright Thou beamest forth
In truth and light! O Sovereign meek and lowly.

Thou Root of Jesse, David's Son, My Lord and Master,
Thou has won My heart to serve Thee.
Thou art holy, fair and glorious, all victorious,
Rich in blessing, Rule and might o'er all possessing.

Sermon

“Pinocchio Hope”
(Isaiah 2:1-5)

Erin Conaway

Silent Reflection

I have a dream, God says. Please help Me to realize it. It is a dream of a world whose ugliness and squalor and poverty, its war and hostility, its greed and harsh competitiveness, its alienation and disharmony are changed into their glorious counterparts, when there will be more laughter, joy and peace, where there will be justice and goodness and compassion and love and caring and sharing. I have a dream that swords will be beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks, that My children will know that they are members of one family, the human family, God's family, My family.

— Desmond Tutu, *God Has a Dream: A Vision of Hope for Our Time*, pgs. 19-20

Hymn of Commitment, No. 94

“Tell Out, My Soul”

*If you would like to make a public profession of your faith in Christ
or request membership in this congregation, our ministers
will greet you at the front of the sanctuary.*

Congregational Response

In response to your decision, we pledge ourselves to be the family of God for you in this place; we offer you our love, our care, our kinship, and our hopes; we hope to learn from you, give to you, and receive from you, by God's grace. Amen.

Pastoral Blessing

Erin Conaway

Choral Response

“Peace, I Leave With You”

David Music

Postlude

“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

(WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET)
Michael Burkhardt

Today at Seventh

Our Pianist today is Carolien Tantra.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given in celebration of the Advent season.

The Artwork on the Cover is by Sally Lynn Askins.

Hearing devices are available at the sound booth for any who need assistance.

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