



 federated  
DECEMBER 1, 2024



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December 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent

10 AM

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*Chimes indicate the service is starting, and silence is appreciated to prepare for worship.*

**Prelude**      *The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came* (P. Manz)      Marcia Snavely, organ

**Welcome and Announcements**      Pastor Vicki McGaw

**Introit**      *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* (ar. Mitchell Eithun)      Federated Bell Choir

**Call to Worship and Advent Candle Lighting**      Mari Hageman

One: Can we be homesick for something we've never known?

**All: We are homesick for a just world, for peace like a river, for the end of suffering.**

One: Yes, we are homesick . . . and so we hope for a world where all are fed, for a place with more bridges than walls.

**All: For joy that is contagious and for nations that feel like neighbors.**

One: We are homesick for the world God promises . . . and so we hope for a world with wide open doors and a place filled with contagious laughter.

**All: We hope for that world, long for that world, are homesick for that world.**

One: So today we light the candle of hope, because hope keeps our hearts alive as we wait.

**All: May this light be a reminder that the wait is always worth it.**

One: As we gather to worship God, may we carry hope with us. Amen.

\* **Hymn**      *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*      No. 129

**Message for the Young at Heart**

\* **Passing of Christ's Peace**  
(Children K-5 leave for Sunday School)

\* **Hymn**      *Emmanuel, Emmanuel*      No. 129

**Call to Confession/ Prayer of Confession**      Pastor McGaw

One: Gracious God, we find ourselves with two options every day: to stay

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\* Those who are able stand

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homesick for the world you had in mind, or to allow cynicism to win.

**All: Do we hope against hope, or do we throw in the towel? Do we insist on a better world, or do we assume it's impossible?**

One: Forgive us for the days when cynicism wins. Forgive us for numbing our homesick hurt instead of using it to fuel a better world.

**All: Kindle in us a hope that won't let go. Gratefully we pray. Amen.**

### Words of Forgiveness

One: Even when we throw in the towel, even when we give up on hope, God does not give up on us. We are loved. We are claimed. We are invited closer to God's home. So hear and trust this good news:

**All: There is room for all of us in God's house, and nothing can separate us from that love.**

### Invitation to Generosity

Rev. Betsy Wooster

### Anthem

*Veni* (Jason Krug)

Federated Bell Choir

### Doxology

Tune: TRURO

**To God, all glorious heavenly light;  
To Christ revealed in earthly night;  
To God the Spirit now we raise;  
Our joyful songs of thankful praise.**

- **Prayer of Dedication** Pastor McGaw

### Prayer of Thanksgiving and Fellowship of Prayer

Rev. Wooster

### Scripture

Jeremiah 33:14-16, *Luke 21:25-36*

Pastor McGaw

### Sermon

Pastor McGaw

- \* **Hymn** *Wait for the Lord* [words on screen]

### Invitation to the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor McGaw and Rev. Wooster

**Communion Music** *Savior of the Nations, Come* (L. Wasson)

*Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel* (L. Wasson) Marcia Snavely, piano



This Sanctuary is equipped with a **Hearing Loop system** that works with all **Telecoil-equipped hearing aids** to amplify sound with excellent clarity.

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## Communion Prayer

One: God is with us.

**All: We are not alone.**

One: Christ is present here.

One: Let us give thanks to God . . .

**All: Who creates for us a spiritual home.**

One: You, Creating God, formed us in our mothers' wombs in your image where, held inside your arms of love, we knew we were home.

**All: You sent prophets to call to us, reminding us that you are always at hand.**

**Their voices cry out across history, saying, "Do not despair! The One who created you has never forgotten you and will always welcome you home."**

One: Even in times of loneliness and nothingness, when we feel most vulnerable and forgotten, God's word comes to us in quiet shouts, in keen affirmations, and in calls upon our souls to magnify God. And so, with voices gentle and loud, timid and strong, we declare to the universe:

**All: Holy, holy, holy is our God, who made heaven and earth. All creation sings of God's glory! Blessed is the one who comes in God's name; hosanna in the highest!**

One: Into the most humble of abodes, an infant was born on an incredible night when a bright star and angels proclaiming his glory led meek shepherds to serve as witnesses.

**All: He came to enter common homes, proclaiming good news, healing the sick, feeding the hungry and setting free the oppressed.**

\* **Hymn** *Come, O Long-expected Jesus* No. 125

\* **Benediction** Pastor McGaw

**Postlude** *Rejoice, Rejoice Believers* (P. Manz) Marcia Snavelly, organ

~ Departing to Service~

## UPCOMING WORSHIP

Sunday, December 8th, 10 AM

Second Sunday of Advent: Laying the Foundation

Pastor Vicki McGaw preaches

Luke 1:57-80

*If you do not wish to take it home, please recycle your bulletin in the recycling bin in the narthex on your way out.*