

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Prayer

(from The Book of Praise, # 535)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen

Cover Drawing by Colin Rackham



Sunday November 29th, 2020

First Sunday of Advent

Minister: Rev. Susan Mattinson

Music Director: Carol Wehrstedt

Pianist/Organist: Carol Wehrstedt

Church Secretary: Gina LaManna

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WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Musical Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Please stand at items marked * if you are able.

Passages in **Bold Print** are to be spoken in unison.

Lighting the Candle of Hope (see insert)

Instrumental Hymn: "Hope is a Star" #119

***Opening Prayer:**

Creator God, you made the heavens and the earth. You set the planets in their courses, lit the sun with fire, caused the stars to shine and the world to turn. Life springs up wherever your breath moves. In Jesus Christ, you brought hope into a world full of fear and despair. You sent your Spirit to enliven our hope and guide us on the way. We are waiting now in anxious times for the world to be made new. We wait for new life, and we wait with deep hope.

Redeeming God, we confess that waiting is difficult for us. We want to be comfortable in this festive season, but the pandemic keeps us anxious and unhappy. We complain about our own troubles and close our eyes to the suffering of others. Forgive us for ignoring truths we do not want to see. Forgive us for seeking our own comfort at the cost of others. Give us eyes to perceive the great need within our community. Give us eyes to see the deep need within our own lives. Turn our hearts to you again and again. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

Special Music:

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Bible Readings:

Isaiah 64:1-9 pg.694-695 OT

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19 pg.540-541 OT

Mark 13:24-27 pg.50 NT

Sermon: "The Beginning and the End"

Instrumental Hymn: "O come, o come Emmanuel" #122

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Tithes and Offerings

*** Prayer of Dedication:**

God of hope, we offer you our gifts with our thanks. Your love is always relevant, and your presence is always within our budgets. Bless what we bring with your Spirit and enrich our impact in a world with desperate needs. May we shine as symbols of the unending hope we have in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Friend. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer (see the back of bulletin)

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

Blessing

Music Postlude:

(Please maintain a reverent silence and stillness during Postlude)