

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN-CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

November 29th, 2020

1st Sunday of Advent

MUSICAL PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP AND COUNTDOWN

MINI MOVIE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Laura & Nola Bohn

PRELUDE What Child Is This?

Smith- Hustad

CHORAL INTROIT Christ is Coming!

Joachim Neander

GREETING L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Awake, people of God, and stay alert for Christ's coming.

Grace to you and peace from God who sent Jesus to us.

**Make your ways known to us, O God.**

**Show us once more your awesome presence.**

We are all God's people; no one is excluded.

Come together as God's family for worship and prayer.

**Let the mountains quake before you, mighty God.**

**Let the nations tremble in awe and reverence.**

Praise the One who grants us the gift of life.

Give thanks for God's continuing faithfulness.

**Heaven and earth will pass away,**

**But the Word of God is true for all times and places.**

MORNING PRAYER (read by Lay Reader)

Amid threatening clouds of anger and selfish strife, come, O God, to bring light. Into our days of worry and anxiety, send a confident hope. Enrich us with spiritual gifts that transcend disappointments and spill out in generous compassion for all your suffering children. Meet us today where we are so we may be equipped for trials yet to come and for joys yet to be revealed. In Jesus' name. Amen.

\*HYMN Come Thou Long Expected Jesus #135

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Awesome God, we confess the sin of our separation from you. We have blamed you for hiding from us, rather than admitting we have failed to see you in the thousands of ways you are revealing yourself every day. We have not called on you, and we have not listened for your call to us. Without you, we have become tiny**

islands of self-concern. Our links with the rest of your children are stretched and broken. O God, we long for that loving community in which your reign is acknowledged and your purposes are served. Move us to that place, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God's grace has come to us in Jesus Christ. God restores us to a right relationship with the eternal that we might rightfully value ourselves and all people. Spiritual gifts are ours to claim. God is faithful and will strengthen us to face all circumstances. Praise God, the source of all things.

\*GLORIA PATRI

#805

CHORAL ANTHEM Emmanuel, Come Soon

David Angerman

CHILDREN'S CHAT Pastor Jim

\*HYMN In The Bleak Midwinter *On Insert*

CCI#1155092

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 64:1-9 (p.680); 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 (p.1038) & Mark 13:24-37 (p.925)

MESSAGE Rev. James Deters

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *On insert*

PERIOD OF GUIDED PRAYER Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

OFFERINGS OF GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY Herr Christ, der einig Gottes Sohn

J. G. Walther

\*DOXOLOGY

#809

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER (unison)

**Gracious God, we give our best to you, not out of guilt or fear but with gratitude and faith. You have been our support in times of need. Every breath we take is a gift from you. We would be awake and watchful for opportunities to make a difference, to help others be alert for your presence, to value life in all its fullness, and to learn to care. We dedicate these symbols of thankfulness and all the days of our lives to those purposes. Amen.**

\*HYMN Joy To The World!

#146

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

The time is coming when God will call us to account.

Be alert and watchful, serving faithfully day by day.

**We will look around us for signs of God's presence.**

**We will open our eyes to ways to be helpful.**

Use the gifts you have been given to the glory of God.

Let the testimony of Christ strengthen you in every way.

**We will share our spiritual gifts in word and deed.**

**We will seek to be in shaped by the potter's hands.**

Grace to you and peace, from God and Jesus Christ.

Know that God is faithful and Christ walks with you.

**With hearts full of gladness, we will do what's right.**

**With great joy, our lives will show forth our faith. Amen**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE** "Amen" *African American Spiritual*

**POSTLUDE** Angels We Have Heard on High. Are. Smith-Hustad

\*All those who are able, please stand.

**ORGANIST** Nancy Dufek

**PIANIST** Marian Penn

**CHOIR DIRECTOR** Diana Mann

**SINGERS:** Becca Nelson, Lynn Adams, Tim Delnay, Bill Handy

**Church office hours** Monday--Friday from 8:15 a.m. to noon

**Rev. James Deters, Pastor** [upccpastor@gmail.com](mailto:upccpastor@gmail.com)

**Kate Bernardo, Administrative Assistant** [kate.uppc@gmail.com](mailto:kate.uppc@gmail.com)

**Church office phone** 715-682-3093

**Website:** <https://upchurch.org>

**Like us on Facebook at** United Presbyterian Congregational Church

**Join our Facebook group** at UPCC Connection



**United Presbyterian/Congregational Church**

**214 Vaughn Ave, Ashland, Wisconsin 54806**

**PASTOR: Reverend James Deters**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 am**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 am**

*Illustration by Ben Cogger*

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are an Advent people, a people of hope. For us, Advent is a time of waiting, and so we wait. We wait for the coming of the One who is the fulfillment of God's promise, the fulfillment of hope, the declaration that we have been redeemed. Even so, we are not a naive people. We know that the world in which we live will continue to be filled with pain and sorrow. We know that hatred and violence will continue to exist. We know that death and separation will continue to be a part of our lives. But because we are an Advent people, we know that none of these things will win in the end. The Holy One is coming to make holy once again all that was, all that is, and all that ever will be. And in our waiting and our hoping, we work and worship, pray and play, in all things hoping that peace, love and joy will reign in our lives and in our world, now and forever.

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**Isaiah 64:1-9****p.680**

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil—  
to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
From ages past no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for him.  
You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.  
But you were angry, and we sinned;  
because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
We all fade like a leaf,  
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us,  
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.  
Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

**1 Corinthians 1:3-9****p.1038**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then 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.

“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. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It 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. Therefore, 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, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

## ACTIVITY CALENDAR

12/2 Noon In-person AA meeting in lower lounge

## BIRTHDAYS

29 Terry Biglow  
2 Linda Fischer  
3 Greyson Stadler

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Children's Chats** We are looking for volunteers to do children's chats via video for our Sunday streaming services. If you would like to volunteer, need help with this, or need to learn how to do this please email [ladams1055@gmail.com](mailto:ladams1055@gmail.com) or text or call Lynn at 715-209-6784.

**Communications Committee** In an effort to keep the congregation informed of events and activities of interest to the church family, please submit announcements for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin. The submission deadline is noon every Tuesday. Please send your information to the church office via email to [info@upcchurch.org](mailto:info@upcchurch.org).

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1 In the bleak mid-win - ter, frost - y wind made moan;  
 2 Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;  
 3 An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there;  
 4 What can I give him, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
 heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign:  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim thronged the air;  
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed  
 but his moth - er on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,  
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

‡ in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
 the Lord God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.  
 ‡ wor - shipped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.  
 yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

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# Joy to the World! the Lord Is Come 146

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Ps. 98:4

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; let earth  
 2. Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns; let all th  
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns  
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
 songs em - ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness,

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - tur  
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his  
 (1.) and heaven and na - ture sing,

(1.) and  
 sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sin;  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy  
 found, far as, far as the curse - is four  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his lov  
 heaven and na - ture sing,

# Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 135

*I will shake all nations, and the desired of all nations will come . . . Hag. 2:7*

1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
2. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear De - sire of ev - ery na - tion, Joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.