

November 30, 2025 1st Week of Advent-HOPE

**Pre-Service Music** 

Noah Davis

**Welcome and Announcements** 

Liturgist

Liturgist

**Mission Point** 

<u>Prelude</u> Noah Davis

<u>Choir Introit</u> CTC Choir

<u>Call to Worship</u>

Leader: Wake up; wake up! The day of God is near.

All: We do not know the hour,

so we will live like the time is here and now.

God is here, now!

Leader: Let us go to the house of our Living God. **All:** We journey with all peoples of all creeds.

Leader: Let us go and bask in Holy Wisdom's warmth

All: so that we can learn her ways

and choose her paths.

Leader: To enter the house of God, we must wake up

to the nightmare of hate and violence;

all oppression must cease.

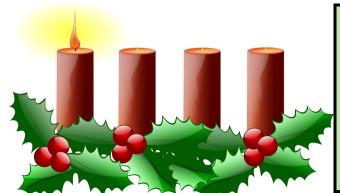
All: We will beat our weapons into tools for love.

We will take the walls we raise against the stranger

and build a house where all can live in peace.

<u>Opening Prayer</u> Liturgist

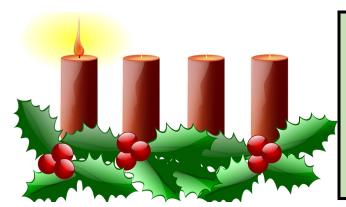
God of justice, God of peace, even now you are breaking into our weary world. Make your presence known to those who wait and watch for you. Send your Spirit of justice rolling over the earth; sweep away all war and suffering so that all of your creation can glorify you in peace—



#### **Lighting the Advent Wreath**

Week One: Hope

- A. Children of God, what are we waiting for?
  We wait for dawn when night feels endless.
  We wait for the breaking of chains that bind.
  We wait with prophets whose words still echo, with ancestors who held hope close in exile, with weary souls who dare to believe again.
  We wait, not with empty hands, but with open hearts, trusting the One whose promise is faithful still.
- B. Today we light one candle, fragile and small, yet enough to pierce the heavy dark. This flame is a witness that hope is alive, though hidden, though quiet, though not yet full. We set our faces toward the light, learning to see what God is already doing, bearing together the sign of things to come.
- C. We call this candle Hope. (Light the first candle.)
  Its glow whispers that despair is not the end.
  Its warmth reminds us that God is near.
  Its spark stirs courage as we wait.
- D. Holy One, we confess that waiting wears us down. Our patience thins, our vision clouds, and sometimes our hope is only a faint ember. Yet you do not despise small beginnings; you breathe on our weakness with your Spirit, kindling the flame of faith we thought was gone. Renew us, O Lord, as we learn to wait in you.
- E. Hear the promise of Isaiah:
  "Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
  they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
  they shall run and not be weary,
  they shall walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31).



### COUNTRYSIDE TRINITY CHURCH November 30, 2025

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**F.** We stand in awe of a hope that endures. Though shadows lengthen, the light will not fail. Though our waiting feels long, your coming is sure. We join the chorus of saints across time, singing of hope, longing for redemption, trusting that even now, Christ is near. Come, Lord Jesus, and make hope our song.

\* Opening Hymn

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" 132 GTG

Congregation

<u>Call to Confession</u> Liturgist

This is the time for us to wake from sleep; salvation is near to us.

Let us then lay aside the tatters of sin, and put on the armor of righteousness, asking our Savior for forgiveness.

#### \* Prayer of Confession

Congregation

O God, we are steeped in a world of violence. War is one of the first things we learn, and we let it work its way into our lives. Your promises of peace sound like impossible dreams, and we become accustomed to cruelty. Forgive us. Wrest our weapons from our hands, and show us how beautiful life can be when you forge them into instruments of peace.

### \* Time of Silence for Personal Prayers of Confession

\*Assurance of Pardon Liturgist

Beloved of God, know this: the God of Presence, the God of Transformation, the God of Peace, hears our prayers and gives us power to love.

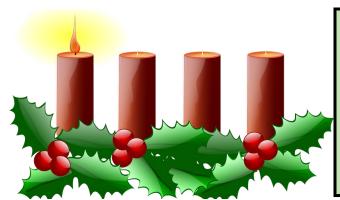
Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks

Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

\*Responding to Grace

"Gloria Patri" #581 GTG

Congregation



#### **Time With Young Disciples**

Rev. Nathaniel Asperger

#### **Prayer for Illumination**

Liturgist

Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### 1st Scripture Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

Here is a vision that Isaiah, the son of Amoz, saw about Judah and Jerusalem.

In the last days the mountain where the Lord's temple is located will be famous. It will be the highest mountain of all.

It will be raised above the hills.

All the nations will go to it.

People from many nations will go there. They will say,

"Come. Let us go up to the Lord's mountain.

Let's go to the temple of Jacob's God.

He will teach us how we should live.

Then we will live the way he wants us to."

The law of the Lord will be taught at Zion.

His message will go out from Jerusalem.

He will judge between the nations.

He'll settle problems among many of them.

They will hammer their swords into plows.

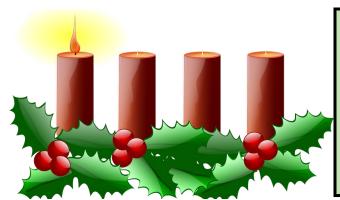
They'll hammer their spears into pruning tools.

Nations will not go to war against one another.

They won't even train to fight anymore.

People of Jacob come.

Let us live the way the Lord has taught us to.



**2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading** Romans 13:11-14

When you do these things, keep in mind the times we are living in. The hour has already come for you to wake up from your sleep. The full effects of our salvation are closer now than when we first believed in Christ. The dark night of evil is nearly over. The day of Christ's return is almost here. So, let us get rid of the works of darkness that harm us. Let us do the works of light that protect us. Let us act as we should, like people living in the daytime. Have nothing to do with wild parties, and don't get drunk. Don't take part in sexual sins or evil conduct. Don't fight with each other or be jealous of anyone. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ as if he were your clothing. Don't think about how to satisfy sinful desires. This is The Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be To God.** 

<u>Choir Anthem</u> CTC Choir

**Gospel Lesson** Matthew 24:36-44

"But no one knows about that day or hour. Not even the angels in heaven know. The Son does not know. Only the Father knows. Remember how it was in the days of Noah. It will be the same when the Son of Man comes. In the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking. They were getting married. They were giving their daughters to be married. They did all those things right up to the day Noah entered the ark. They knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be when the Son of Man comes. Two men will be in the field. One will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill. One will be taken and the other left.

"So, keep watch. You do not know on what day your Lord will come. You must understand something. Suppose the owner of the house knew what time of night the robber was coming. Then he would have kept watch. He would not have let his house be broken into. So, you also must be ready. The Son of Man will come at an hour when you don't expect him.

**Sermon** "The Sudden Appearance of God" Rev. Nathaniel Asperger

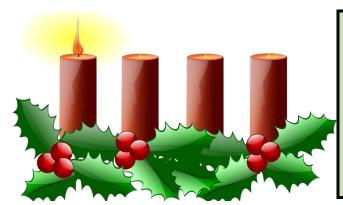
Music Meditation Noah Davis

\* **Sermon Hymn** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" 82 GTG Congregation

**Joys & Concerns** 

**Call to Offering**Rev. Nathaniel Asperger

\* <u>Doxology</u> Congregation



\* Closing Hymn

"The First Nowell" 147GTG

Congregation

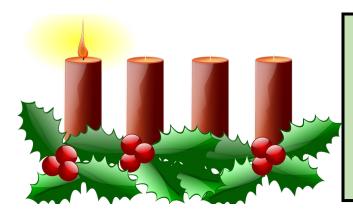
\* Charge, Benediction

Rev. Nathaniel Asperger

Postlude

"Jesus, We Just Want to Thank You.

**Noah Davis** 



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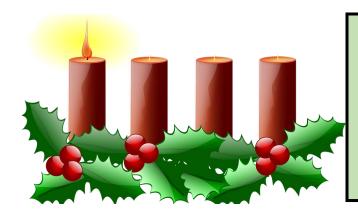


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Carols using two languages, like this one dating from at least the 14th century, belong to a special group called "macaronic," the original languages here being German and Latin. Though the present version is only in English, it is sung to the traditional German folk melody.

TEXT: Medieval Latin; trans. and para. John Mason Neale, 1853, alt.
MUSIC: German folk melody, 14th cent.; harm. David Hugh Jones, 1953
Music Harm. © 1955, ren. 1983 John Ribble (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

IN DULCI JUBILO 6.6.7.7.7.8.5.5



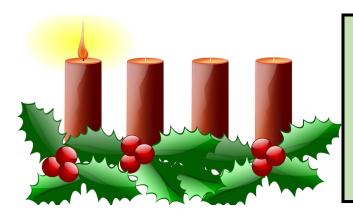
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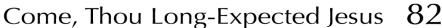
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TEXT: Trad. liturgical text MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851 GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)



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JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT



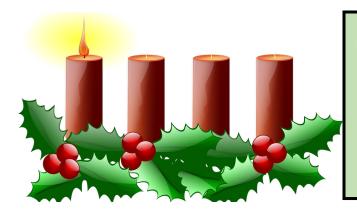


With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1744 MUSIC: Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1830; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906 HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7.D

(alternate tune: STUTTGART, 83)

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JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

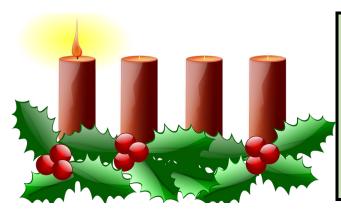


"Nowell" is the English form of the French "noel," a shout of joy formerly used at Christmas (as in Chaucer's "Franklin's Tale"), a clue that the word is older than its first printing. It may have Latin and French roots related to "born" (natus / ne) as well to "news" (nova / nouvelle).

TEXT: English carol; Some Ancient Christmas Carols, 2nd ed., 1823, alt. MUSIC: English carol; Sandys' Christmas Carols, 1833

THE FIRST NOWELL Irregular

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### **JESUS, WE JUST WANT TO THANK YOU**

Jesus, We Just Want To Thank You, Jesus, We Just Want To Thank You, Jesus We Just Want To Thank You, Thank You For Being So Good.

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