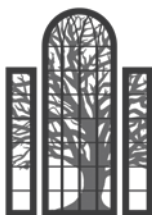




1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
NOVEMBER 29, 2020



University Presbyterian Church

3240 Dalrymple Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802
(225)383-0345 • www.upcbr.org

Pastor: Patti Snyder Temp. Parish Associate: Betsy Irvine
Choir Director: David Walters Organist: Anne Maverick Ministers: The people of this church

First Sunday in Advent November 29, 2020

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

We worship today gathered in Spirit if not in body, realizing perhaps more than ever the nature of the body of Christ. We gather as a resurrection people even in our time of loss and uncertainty. As we gather may we be strengthened by the Spirit who knows no boundaries.

As you prepare for worship together you may wish to light a candle representing the presence of God with you and concerns, laments, desires for healing, confessions or prayers of thanksgiving that you are particularly holding in the light of Christ today.

PRELUDE

Sleepers, Wake!

Charles Callahan

Morning Star Music Publishers, Inc., 1989

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, AND CONCERNS

Amybeth Mainord

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Amybeth Mainord

When we gather for worship,
we see a better world.

**When we gather for worship,
we dream better dreams.**

So come, bring your heart, your vision, and your dreams.
and find hope here.

Let it be so.

LIGHTING OF FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Lilly Bridwell Bowles and Rick Bowles

OPENING SONG No. 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

CALL TO CONFESSION

Patti Snyder

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**Original Dreamer, over and over again in scripture,
we hear your dream for a beautiful world.**

We hear your dream for peace and reconciliation.

We hear your dream for harmony and togetherness.

We hear your dream for community and hope.

**We hear your dreams, and yet we continue to live with the curtains drawn,
the covers pulled tight, eyes shut to the realities of the world. Forgive us.**

**Kindle a hope in us that will burn through the darkest nights. Give us the
strength and the will to keep awake in this sleeping world. With hope we
pray, amen.**

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS (*Sung through one time*)

You are the Lord, giver of mercy

You are the Christ, giver of mercy

You are the Lord, giver of mercy.

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Mark 13:24-37

Isaiah 64:1-9

MEDITATION

Amybeth Mainord

Patti Snyder

Patti Snyder

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good to give God thanks and praise

(The prayer of thanksgiving follows – spoken by the worship leaders)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF ELEMENTS

COMMUNION PRAYER (*unison*)

We taste bread and drink from our cups, and memory stirs and hope awakens. Continue, we pray, to sustain your world with the simple elements of life and move us to take note of the ways you show up.

WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN No. 88 *vs 1, 4, and 5*

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

OFFERING OF GIFTS

During this time you are encouraged to consider your response to the work of Christ in the world today, making a commitment of time, talents, and resources. Please remember your family, neighbors, the wider community, and the church in your offering. Although many things are shifting, please continue to honor previous commitments to the best of your ability.

If you choose to contribute to the work of Christ through UPC at this time, online giving is available via the GIVE tab on our website (www.upcbr.org) or by texting “upcbr (space) and then the number of dollars” to 73256.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*unison*)

God of promise, you cause the branch of hope to bud and flower; we offer you the fruit of our labor. You disperse the gloomy clouds of night; we commit to parting the curtains that we might see. May our actions bring reassurance to those seeking evidence of your goodness. May our lives proclaim hopes fulfilled. Use our gifts as signs of what your presence can mean. Amen.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

RESPONSE

Wait for the Lord who comes again as hope.

Alleluia and Amen.

CLOSING MUSIC

Come, O Precious Ransom

Text by Johann G. Olearius (1635-1711)

Translated by August Crull (1846-1923)

Music by Mark Shepperd

Morning Star Music Publishers, 2006

Come, O precious ransom, come.

Come, O savior of the world.

Only hope for sinful mortals!

Come, your beauty let us view;

Anxiously we wait for you.

Hail! Hosanna! David's Son!

Jesus, hear our supplication!

Glorious king and Lord most holy.

Enter now my waiting heart,

Dwell in me and ne'er depart.

Come, O precious ransom, come.

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