



First Sunday of Advent  
November 27, 2022



**University Presbyterian Church**

3240 Dalrymple Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
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Co-Pastors: Mamie Broadhurst and Patti Snyder

Choir Director: David Walters

Organist: Anne Maverick

Ministers: The people of this church

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GATHERING TOGETHER

*As we prepare for worship together, in person or virtually, 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.*

*Everyone is invited to join in speaking or singing aloud the **bold** portions of the liturgy in the bulletin. \*The asterisk indicates parts of the worship when members of the congregation are invited to rise in body or spirit as able.*

PRELUDE

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

*Hal Hopson*

*Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp, 1982*

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

Mamie Broadhurst

CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Quest Confirmation Class and Patti

*Pre K thru 5th graders are invited to come forward*

We wait.

We wait to be able to drive.

To vote.

For school to be over.

For baseball season to start.

For snow.

For summer.

For annoying things to end,

As well as others not being so annoyed with us.

For others to open the Christmas presents we prepare.

For our upcoming holiday performances.

To see grandparents, aunts, uncles,  
and cousins we haven't seen since last year.

We wait for our futures to unfold.

**Together we wait for Christ to be born in our hearts  
and in the world in new ways.**

**In our waiting we worship.**

*The first candle is lit*

\*HYMN No. 85 vs. 1

## **Light One Candle**

*Light one candle to wait for Messiah:  
Let the light banish darkness.  
He shall bring salvation to Israel,  
God fulfills the promise.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Peggy Carroll

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**We see conflicts and hear rumors of them.  
We read of violence and it creeps close.  
We can barely conceive of the injustices that surround and invade.**

**And we are dismayed, even obsessed, with why it is, O God, that you let it be like this. Why is it taking so long for your realm to be made known? Yet we also know that we have had a part in making it so, and we are sometimes tormented by what to do.**

A TIME OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

**Forgive us and this weary world. Give us patience in our waiting and guide us to live into the new life you promise, for we ask it in the name of Christ.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (*responsive*)

God does not run from the truths we speak and even enters into the realities that haunt us. And it is with grace and hope that God responds: **Fear not, there is yet a vision for the salvation of the world. When it seems slow in coming - wait, take heart, have faith.**

\*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS No. 82

**Come, thou long expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us;  
let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.**

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Habakkuk 1:1-7, 2:1-4, 3:3b-6, 17-19

SERMON

Patti Snyder

WE RESPOND WITH DEDICATION

\*HYMN No. 800

***Sometimes a Light Surprises***

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*unison*)

**With thanksgiving for this meal,  
filled with your love and your grace,  
we make our preparations for your advent  
among us once again.  
Together we wait. Amen.**

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.*

*If you choose to contribute to the work of Christ through UPC at this time, on line giving is available. See the announcements for more information.*

INVITATION

ANTHEM

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

*Sonia Feres-Lloyd, viola*

*John Ferguson*

*MorningStar Music Publishers, 1995*

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
Thant mourns in lonely exile here until the son of God appear.  
O rejoice!*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Old Hundredth*

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (*unison*)

**In this moment we embrace your promise and your presence again, O God, and we offer you our love. In this moment we proclaim again your gracious and saving purposes for the world and we offer our resources to make them visible, even as we wait for their fulfillment. In this moment we hear your call again and we offer you our very selves - all that we have and all that we are - that you might be born in us for the world.**

**\*HYMN No. 89**

***For You O Lord, My Soul In Stillness Waits***

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING** (*responsive*)

As we wait we hope.

We hope for food and housing to be affordable.

For wars to end.

For people to be kind and respectful to each other.

That the middle class would not shrink.

That the government would ensure ethical treatment for college students who have to borrow money.

For equal rights for all people.

That we would treat little kids as real people who have real thoughts  
and real feelings.  
That we would teach right and wrong without yelling.  
And for better treatment of animals.

We wait in eager anticipation of all the ways that Christ might be born.  
**May the promise of new life in our lives and in the world stir us to  
faithfulness in all times.**  
Even as we wait, we carry the light of Christ into the world.  
**May it be so. Amen.**

*At the end of the benediction the first light of Advent will be taken to the  
courtyard entrance.*

POSTLUDE

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*  
*Michael Fontana*  
*Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp., 1981*

**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE.  
ASK THE USHER IF YOU NEED A COPY.**

**CHURCH NURSERY**

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for infants and children through kindergarten.

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