First Sunday of Advent (Hope)
The Lord Is Near
December 1, 2024

<u>**Praise**</u>

Prelude   Roger Hintzsche

Gathering with Carols of the Season   Roger Hintzsche

Video   The Anticipation of Hope   AV

Invitation to a Journey of Hope   Sheryl Sawyers

Call to Worship: Luke 3:15-17   Sheryl Sawyers

Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"   CCS 394

Lighting of Advent candles   Jan Dowell

Hymn Response   "Hope is a Light"   *CCS* 398

<u>**Confession**</u>

Prayer for Peace   Jacki Duval

Reading: "Making Room for Jesus"   Bonnie Kohn
                                            By Danny Belrose

<u>**Proclamation of the Word**</u>
Message   Based on Philippians 4:4-7   Tami Perryman

<u>**Commitment**</u>

Invitation to Communion   Jean Hedrich
   Blessing of Bread and Wine   Jean and Bill Hedrich
   Serving of Bread and Wine   Various
   Ministry of Music   Roger Hintzsche

Disciples' Generous Response   Bob White
   Receiving of Local and Worldwide Mission Tithes
   Blessing of Local and Worldwide Mission Tithes   Bob White

Closing Hymn   "May the God of Hope"   *CCS* 652

Benediction   Sheryl Sawyers
Sending Forth: Isaiah 12:2-6   Sheryl Sawyers

Postlude   Roger Hintzsche

"Star-Child" *CCS* 420

Star-Child, earth-Child, go-between of God,
love Child, Christ Child, heaven's lightning rod:

this year, this year let the day arrive when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!

Spared child, spoiled child, having, wanting more,
wise child, faith child, knowing joy in store:

"All Earth Is Hopeful" *CCS* 392

All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last!
Furrows lie open for God's creative task:
this, the labor of people who struggle to see
how God's truth and justice set everybody free.

People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell:
"A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel";
she conceived him, "God with us," our brother, whose birth
restores hope and courage to children of this earth.

Mountains and valleys will have to be prepared;
new highways opened, new protocols declared.
Almost here! God is nearing, in beauty and grace!
All clear every gateway, in haste, come out in haste!

"The First Noel" *CCS* 424

The first Noël the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far,
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.

Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël! Born is the King of Israel!

And by the light of that same star, three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.

This star drew nigh to the northwest, over Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay.

Then entered in those wise men three; full rev'rently upon the knee,
they offered there, in his presence, their gold and myrrh and frankincense.

Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël! Born is the King of Israel!

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"   CCS 394

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things, far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show, and cause us in her ways to go.

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

"Hope is a Light" *CCS* 398

Hope is a light, hope is a light.
Hope is a light to show the way, hope is a light to show the way.
Light the candle of hope, light the candle of hope.

"May the God of Hope" *CCS* 652

May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace,
singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.