

**First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service for the First Sunday in Advent**

November 27, 2022

Pre-Service Music:

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude:

Lighting of the Advent Candle – Advent 1

The world says, “**All is lost.**”

God says, “**All is loved.**”

The darkness says, “**The light is dying.**”

The light says, “**The fire is catching.**”

Fear says, “**Cover your eyes and your ears.**”

Hope says, “**Wait, watch, and listen.**”

As we light our first Advent candle, **we pray for holy hope of God.**

Come now, O Child of Mary. **Come now, O Prince of Hope.**

GTG 103: *Come Now, O Prince of Peace* vs. 1

Call to Worship

Let us go into the house of the Lord!

Let us meet God with joy!

God builds us up like a great city.

May peace be within our walls.

Let us seek the goodness of God;

let us go into the house of the Lord!

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Opening Hymn #107: *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn* (please stand)

Call to Confession

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

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.

Declaration of Pardon

Beloved, 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 be to God!

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Gloria #113: "Gloria" refrain from *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Anthem:

Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

Worship leader will lead the prayers. God, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

God of our longing you know our deepest need. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children, as we pray the prayer your Son taught us to pray:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

Hymn for Illumination#89: *For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits* vs. 1 and 4

Choir or soloist sings the opening refrain. All present sing the verses and additional refrains.

Scriptures for the Day

A voice is crying in the wilderness:

Listen to the word of the Lord.

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 2:1 – 5

Epistle Lesson: Romans 13:11 - 14

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 24:36 – 44

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of the Lord is forever.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *The Day and Hour Unknown*

Pastor Greg Emery

Affirmation of Faith

(please stand)

The one sufficient revelation of God is Jesus Christ, the Word of God incarnate, to whom the Holy Spirit bears unique and authoritative witness through the Holy Scriptures, which are received and obeyed as the word of God written. Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.27

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

(please stand)

Doxology: *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* sung to *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Praise God from whom all ble-ssings flow,
Praise Him all creatures he-re below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Our gifts we bring to thee, O Lord, Amen.

Prayer of Dedication:

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these tithes and offerings for the work of your church in this place. Make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Sending Hymn 662#: *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Sky* (stand)

Benediction: (remain standing)

May the God of peace make you holy and the power of the Spirit sustain you until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Alleluia!** 1 Thessalonians 5:16–24

Prepare the way of the Lord! **Amen.** Isaiah 40:3; Mark 1:3

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord**

Postlude: (please be seated)

Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by Lorie Francis, and Jeff Sandquist. Worship led by Carol Bennett and sermon provided by Greg Emery.

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