BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
8:30 a.m. Sunday 29 November 2026
First Sunday of Advent

ENTRANCE
(To help us connect, please sign the attendance pad in your pew)

Lighting of candles and prelude

Opening prayer: 201 *Advent*

Song: 211 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" *(Verses 1-4)*

Blessing of the Advent Wreath*:

Christ came to bring us salvation
and has promised to come again.
Let us pray that we may always be ready to welcome him
Come, Lord Jesus.
That the keeping of Advent may open our hearts
to God's love. ***R***
That the light of Christ may penetrate
the darkness of sin. ***R***
That this wreath may constantly remind us
to prepare for the coming of Christ. ***R***
That the Christmas season may fill us with peace and joy
as we strive to follow the example of Jesus, ***R.***
Loving God, your Church joyfully awaits
the coming of its Savior,
who enlightens our hearts
and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin.
Pour forth your blessings upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath.
May their light reflect the splendor of Christ,
who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.
(Book of Blessings, U.S.A., 20th cent.)

Lighting of the Advent candle: First Sunday: Isaiah 60:2-3

(2)
We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our hope.
May the light sent from God shine in the darkness
to show us the way of salvation.

Response: 2090 *(Verse 1 only)* "Light the Advent Candle"

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE
Prayer for Illumination : Page 6

First lesson: Isaiah 64:1-9
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Psalter: 80 *(Response 1)* Psalm 80

Second lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Song: 626 “L000et All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

Gospel lesson: Mark 13:24-37

Sermon

Joys, concerns, prayers

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION (All are welcome)
(page 15ff)

SENDING FORTH
Song: 382 "Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

Blessing: 2087 *(Verse 1 only)* “We Will Glorify the King of Kings”

Postlude and extinguishing of candles

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