

**BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**8:30 a.m. Sunday 30 November 2025**

**First Sunday of Advent**

**ENTRANCE**

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

Lighting of candles and prelude

Praise choruses: Selected carols

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

**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.**

(2)

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

Youth moments

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

Prayer for listening ears

First lesson: Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalter: 845 *(Response 1)* Psalm 122

Second lesson: Romans 13:11-14

Song: 211 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel)

Gospel lesson: Matthew 24:36-44

Sermon

Joys, concerns, prayers

**THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION (Page 15ff)**

**All Are Welcome**

**SENDING FORTH**

Song: 722 "I Want to Be Ready"

Blessing: 201 "Advent"

Postlude and extinguishing of candles/Going forth

\*THE UNITED METHODIST BOOK OF WORSHIP Copyright  
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