

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
8:30 a.m. Sunday 28 November 2021
First Sunday of Advent/United Methodist Student Sunday

ENTRANCE

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

Prelude and lighting of candles

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 light of Christ may penetrate the darkness of sin. **R.**

That the keeping of Advent may open our hearts to God's love. **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 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 century)*

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

“For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.” *(NRSV)*

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.** *(Hope to Joy, USA,
20th Cent., Alt.)*

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

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for listening ears: 393 “Spirit of the Living God”

First lesson: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalter: 756 *(Response 2)* Psalm 25:1-10

Second lesson: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Song: 211 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Gospel lesson: Luke 21:25-36

Sermon: "Be on guard."

Joys, concerns, prayers: 201 "Advent"

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION (Page 15ff)

All are welcome

SENDING FORTH

Song: 196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Blessing: 672 *(Verse one only)* “God Be with You
till We Meet Again”

Postlude/Going forth/Extinguishing of candles