

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

November 27th, 2022

“FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT”

“SONGS FOR A SAVIOR WORSHIP SERIES”

Liturgical Color – purple / blue



DALLAS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TODAY'S CENTERING MEDITATION

“Bless the Lord God of Israel

because he has come to help and has delivered his people.

He has raised up a mighty savior for us in his servant David's house”

~ Luke 1:68-69 (CEB) ~

* Please stand in stature or in heart as you are able.

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Wexford Carol

A Traditional English Carol arr. by Mark Hayes

OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE – “HOPE”

Jack & Jennie Martin

* CALL TO WORSHIP

As people long ago waited in anticipation of the day when the Messiah would come,
we ask that our minds might be prepared so that Jesus is welcome.

O come, O come, Emanuel, come into our minds today.

As longed for the day when God would be more fully revealed through the Son,
so we ask for pure hearts that Jesus might enter us.

O come, O come, Emanuel, come into our hearts today.

As the people of God listened to the prophets foretell the coming of the Prince of Peace,
and prepared their hearts and lives to receive him,
so we pray for all barriers to Jesus be removed from us.

O come, O come, Emanuel, come into our lives today.

* *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

211 (verses 1, 5, 6, 7)

CHILDREN'S CHAT

PRAYER OF CONFESSION FOLLOWED BY MOMENTS OF SILENT PRAYER

Lord of all times, we come into your presence asking your forgiveness.

We have failed to live as people of the present.

**We have wasted our moments, wanting the future now,
seeing our dreams as the answer to today's problems.**

Rather than seeing your blessing in each day,

we have looked backward to glory days that seem glorious only in their passing.

Open our eyes to our mission at hand.

Open our ears to your message to us today,

that we might share in bringing the good news of your salvation to the world.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PARDON

* A CHRISTMAS AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

by Rev. Stephen M. Fearing

We believe that God has come to us as a little child,

making our weakness his strength,

securing our salvation by becoming one of us,

blessing us with a steadfast savior,

filling our hearts with joy to be shared with one another.

We believe that God has birthed righteousness and justice into the world,

giving us a law that will be written upon our hearts,

making the cause of the oppressed the highest priority,

declaring an everlasting reign of peace,

defeating the power of pain and suffering.

We believe that God calls us to participate in this reality of love,

inviting us to proclaim Christ's resurrection at the Table,

transforming us as disciples to go out into the world,

sending us forth to announce his kingdom of peace and comfort,

challenging us to see everyone as nothing less than beloved children.

This we believe. This we preach.

This we seek to embody in word and deed.

AMEN and AMEN.

* *Glory Be to the Father*

70

SPECIAL SELCTION

Choir

TIME OF PRAYER / THE LORD'S PRAYER *(from the ritual of the former Evangelic United Brethren Church)*

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.

3-FOLD AMEN

GOD'S WORD:

Isaiah 43:18-19 Luke 1:68-79

(The Liturgist says: "This is the Word of God for ALL people" ... AND ... the People respond: "Thanks BE to God"

TODAY'S MESSAGE:

"ZECHARIAH'S SONG"

UNISON PRAYER

May this eternal truth be always on our hearts,

that the God who breathed this world into being

placed stars into the heavens and designed a butterfly's wing

is the God who entrusted his life to the care of ordinary people

became vulnerable that we might know how strong is the power of LOVE

A mystery so deep it is impossible to grasp

A mystery so beautiful it is impossible to ignore. AMEN.

* *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

203

* BENEDICTION

* *There's a Song in the Air*

249 (verses 1, 3)

Thank you for your vital financial support of the mission and ministry of Dallas United Methodist Church.

Offering plates for your continued support are located at the chancel railing.

INFORMATION FOR YOU

TODAY - - DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS & PIZZA ... Please join us following Worship TODAY, the first Sunday of Advent, to help decorate the church for Christmas. We'll enjoy some pizza, refreshments, and beverages too.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS ... this year's cost is \$8.00 ... red ones will be here December 11th ... white ones will be here December 24th. Orders are due TODAY, Sunday, November 27th. To place your order, please speak with Jennie Valick-Kopacz here at church or by phone (570-574-7849)

CHURCH OFFICE ... will close at 12:00 PM on Tuesday this week

WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER ... You are invited to join our District Superintendent, Rev. Judy Walker, by ZOOM every Wednesday morning at 8:00 AM for 20 minutes. The link to join this time of prayer is ...

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89722373231?pwd=YUIBRm1ya1U0OWZ2dIlVNFJsdXM4UT09>

WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER AND DEVOTION ... You are invited to join Pastor Dave by ZOOM every Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM for 15 to 20 minutes of prayer and devotion. A link to join Pastor Dave will be emailed out on Tuesday.

CHURCH OFFICE ... will be closed on Thursday this week

HANDBELL CHOIR PRACTICE ... next Sunday at 8:45 AM. ALL are welcome to join the HANDBELL CHOIR

CHOIR PRACTICE ... next Sunday at 9:30 AM. ALL are welcome to join the CHOIR

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE ... Thursday, December 22nd ... 7:00 PM ... Shavertown UMC ... This service is for all who have experienced a loss or who have a difficult time during this season.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE ... Saturday, December 24th ... 6:30 PM ... this is the same time as Christmas Eve 2021.

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING ... Continuing the new tradition Dallas UMC started last Christmas Eve, we will give our Christmas offering away to local mission and ministries. This year, our Church Leadership Council has designated ***SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE*** and ***THE RUTH MATTHEWS BOURGER WOMEN WITH CHILDREN PROGRAM*** as the recipients of this year's Christmas Eve offering ... with the offering being divided equally between these two very important ministries

INTERESTED IN A TRIP TO THE HOLY LAND IN 2024? ... For 50 years, EO has been working with the United Methodist Church to take travelers to see the places in the Holy Land where Jesus and his disciples walked. Lake Winola UMC is looking into this trip of a lifetime for our congregation and many friends. If you would be interested in learning more about joining us or forming a group from your church, please contact Pastor Robin Fillmore at rfillmore@susumc.org or call 570-392-9092. We are in the very early stages of planning at this point, as we gauge interest from others to find out the size of our potential group.

AS STEWARDS OF GOD'S CREATION

