

APOSTLES' CREED (In Unison)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit the one holy Universal Christian Church. The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to God.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *"Emmanuel"*

Welcome to St. John's United Church of Christ



H O P E

**We are happy to welcome everyone
attending St. John's United Church of
Christ. May God Bless you with His
abundant love.**

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

First Sunday in Advent - Hope

December 3, 2023

10:15 am

PRELUDE *"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

Leader: In Advent we watch and wait, and prepare
to welcome the Christ Child into the world

People: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Leader: In Advent we prepare for a life of disciple-
ship, and watch faithfully for signs of
God's light breaking into the world.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Leader: As we wait, dear One, we watch for signs of
your action in the world, actions of com-
passion and grace breaking in.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Leader: Holy God, we recognize that we do not
know the day or the hour, but we know
that the day is near.

**People: Come, Lord Jesus, come! Be born anew in
our world and in our lives.**

ADVENT SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 25:4-5

OPENING HYMN

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

In this season as the days grow shorter and the
shadows lengthen, we gather in eager expectation
for the Light of the World to dawn. Help
us, God, to lay aside all the works of night and
even our cynicism as we enter this sacred season.
During this hour of worship, send your Spirit to
empower us to live in the light with hope. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GLORIA PATRI #623

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 64:1-4
Mark 13:26-37 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Hymn

"O Thou Joyful, O Thou Wonderful!"

TODAY'S MESSAGE "Season of Hope"
Reverend Laura Doty

DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS

"Doxology" #625

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

Prayers of the People – Kelly Harris
Pastoral, The Lord's Prayer (Debts, Debtors)