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 **November 27, 2022**

 **First Week of Advent**

 **“Sacred Time”**

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Administrative Assistant: Kenna Haj | Bell Choir Director: Laural Clark

 Director of Music Ministry: Antuan Hairston | Organist: Clarice Snyder

 Pastor: Rev. Patricia Abell



Saint James United Methodist Church

 Marriottsville, MD

WE GATHER

**Prelude “***Advent* Tone Poem on *Conditor alme siderum” (Creator of the Stars of Night)*

Kenneth Lowenberg

***Offered by Clarice Snyder***

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**Welcome *Rev. Patricia Abell***

**Introit**  “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”verse 1 ***UMH 211***

O come O come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here

Until the Son of God appear

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee O Israel

CCLI Song # 3063194

Henry Sloane Coffin | Laurence Hull Stookey | Thomas Helmore

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**Crossing the Threshold** *reflecting on the sacred*  ***Rev. Patricia Abell***

**Sung Response** *Come and Find the Quiet Center* ***TFWS 2128***

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,

Find the room for hope to enter find the frame where we are freed.

Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see

All the things that really matter, be at peace and simply be

CCLI Song # 1195449

John L. Bell | Shirley Erena Murray © Words: 1992 Murray, Shirley Erena (Admin. by Hope Publishing Company)

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**Lighting of the Advent Candle of Hope *Barbara Cook***

ONE: We pray for Hope this day. **ALL:** **We pray for Hope this day.**

ONE: We open to see the Sacred reflected in all things.

**ALL: We open to see the Sacred reflected in all things.**

ONE: We open to see each moment **ALL: We open to see each moment**

ONE: as a gift of holy presence. **ALL: as a gift of holy presence.**

ONE: This is the gift of the Christ Mystery, **ALL: This is the gift of the Christ Mystery,**

ONE: lighting the way to hope. **ALL: lighting the way to hope.**

**Congregational Chorus *Come and Find the Quiet Center TFWS 2128***

**Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,**

**Find the room for hope to enter find the frame where we are freed.**

**Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see**

**All the things that really matter, be at peace and simply be.**

**Prayer**

**Living God, Christ Mystery, Spirit of Hope, we give you thanks for this holy moment together.**

**As we take in the hope you offer, may we be a reflection of your light,**

**expanding the sacred time of “right now” into the sacred time of “always and for all time.” Amen.**

**Opening Hymn of Hope** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” ***UMH 196***

1. Come Thou long expected Jesus 2. Born thy people to deliver
Born to set Thy people free Born a child and yet a King
From our fears and sins release us Born to reign in us forever
Let us find our rest in Thee Now thy gracious kingdom bring
Israel's strength and consolation By thine own eternal spirit
Hope of all the earth Thou art Rule in all our hearts alone
Dear desire of every nation By thine all sufficient merit
Joy of every longing heart Raise us to thy glorious throne

CCLI Song # 31999

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**Time for Children *Donna Benson***

**Scripture**  **Romans 13: 11-14 (The Message)** ***Barbara Cook***

Make sure that you don’t get so absorbed and exhausted in taking care of all your day-by-day obligations that you lose track of the time and doze off, oblivious to God. The night is about over, dawn is about to break. Be up and awake to what God is doing! God is putting the finishing touches on the salvation work he began when we first believed. We can’t afford to waste a minute, must not squander these precious daylight hours in frivolity and indulgence, in sleeping around and dissipation, in bickering and grabbing everything in sight. Get out of bed and get dressed! Don’t loiter and linger, waiting until the very last minute. Dress yourselves in Christ, and be up and about!

 **Matthew 24: 36-44 (NRSVUE)**

But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

***A*nthem** “Will We Know Him?” ***Chancel Choir***

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**Message** *Sacred Time* ***Rev. Patricia Abell***

**Prayer**  ***Barbara Cook***

We are wells of the sacred. God’s presence is poured into creation in a never-ending flow of love. We enter a time of prayer that invites us to be refilled in ways that can help us pour out our love throughout the week. All we must do in this moment is open our hearts to the Holy One.

**Choral Call to Prayer** “Emmanuel” ***UMH 204***

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.

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**Continued Prayer**

Siblings in Christ,for the sake of the world that God so loves, let us pray.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

**We pray for peace in every nation— that people will turn their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks and study war no more.**

Pray for the peace of the church.

**We pray for peace in Christ’s body— put an end to fear and fighting,and help us to proclaim in word and action the good news of salvation to all.**

Pray for the peace of this community.

**We pray for peace in this place—** *f***or safety in our homes and streets,for the prosperity of our neighbors, and for the health of family and friends.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**\*Doxology**  (*sung to the tune of “What Child Is This”)* ***UMH 219***

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God all heavens and the earth reflecting the sacred story.

This, this is Christ the One who mirrors hope for all of us.

Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Word of time eternal.

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**\*Closing Hymn** “Soon and Very Soon” ***UMH 706***

1. Soon and very soon 2. No more dying there
We are going to see the King We are going to see the King
Soon and very soon No more dying there
We are going to see the King We are going to see the King
Soon and very soon No more dying there
We are going to see the King We are going to see the King

Hallelujah hallelujah Hallelujah hallelujah,

We're going to see the King We’re going to see the King

3. No more crying there, We are going to see the King
No more crying there, We are going to see the King
No more crying there, We are going to see the King

Hallelujah hallelujah, We're going to see the King

CCLI Song # 11249

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**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**  “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” arr. by Lee Dengler

 ***Offered by Clarice Snyder***

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***Questions for Reflection***

*What does it mean to “get your house in order” for the coming of the Lord?*

*Can we ever be perfectly ready for Christ’s return?*

*Why is the coming of the Lord compared to a thief in the night?*

*Is there grace in God’s surprising advent, God’s unexpected arrival?*

***Household Prayer: Morning***

*Lord God, you have woken me from sleep;the night is gone, the day is here. Enable me to put on the Lord Jesus Christ and help me to live honorably this day,to the glory of your holy name. Amen.*

***Household Prayer: Evening***

*God, my Savior, you are even nearer nowthan when I first learned to trust in you.Help me to lay aside the burdens of the day and rest in the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, my strength and my salvation.**Amen.*

RESOURCES:

‘Reflecting the Sacred’ Liturgy resources from © www.worshipdesignstudio.com/sacred; permission to use, adapt and livestream granted from worshipdesignstudio.com.

Reflection and Household prayers: Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1 © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press. 1-6. Used with permission.

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