

Order of Worship Service, November 29, 2020 11:00 am

First Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

Sleepers, Wake (WACHET AUF) J. S. Bach, transcribed for piano solo by Myra Hess

CALL TO RETURN TO OUR SOULS (WHILE LIGHTING CANDLES ON THE TABLE)

The night is far spent.
The day draws near.
The Light of the World is coming,
illuminating the darkness.
Each of us has an opportunity to become light.
We wait between darkness and light!
A holy space
Advent is here!
A holy time.
Let the first light of Advent shine

#82 Glory to God

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

CONFESSION AND COMMITMENT

May the sounds of Advent
stir a longing in your people, O God.
Come again to set us free
from the dullness of routine
and the poverty of our imaginations
Break the patterns
which bind us to small commitments
and to the stale answers we give
to questions of no importance.
Let the Advent trumpet blow,
let the walls of our defenses crumble,
and make a place in our lives

for the freshness of your love,
well-lived in the Spirit,
and still given to all who know their need
and dare receive it.

Amen.

Howard Thurman, *The Mood of Christmas*

SUNG RESPONSE

#92 Glory to God While We Are Waiting, Come

Bible readings: Isaiah 64:1-9 Mark 13:24-37 Neal Long

SUNG RESPONSE TO BIBLE READINGS

#3 Blue Presbyterian Hymnal Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People

Message SCOTT Advent Portents!—Cosmic Discontent? Or Heaven Sent?

Anthem

Prepare the Way, O Zion (BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN) arr. Mark Schweizer

WELCOME

Intercessory Prayer SCOTT—-with comments by people on FB DEANNA will read these in spaces of silence)...conclude with the Lord's Prayer and Sung Response.....

SUNG RESPONSE

#137 Glory to God He Came Down

Duet Offertory

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (VENI EMMANUEL) -arrangement by Sharon Wilson

Neal Long and Emily Davidson, pianists

Prayer of Dedication

Immanuel, God with us,

our wallets and purses,

our checkbooks and credit cards

are getting a workout in this season.

In so doing, are we revealing You, our true God?

Forgive us and receive our offerings.

Help us, through our giving,

to get our priorities straight.

May joy, gentleness, gratitude, and peace

be our bottom line.

With our hearts and minds

led by you in Christ Jesus,

we pray. Amen.

#88 Glory to God O Come, O Come Emmanuel (stanzas 1-4)

BLESSING

SUNG BENEDICTION RESPONSE

#88 Glory to God O Come, O Come Emmanuel (stanza 6)

Postlude

Savior of the Nations, Come-F.W. Zachow (1663-1712)