

Newtonville United Methodist Church

Sunday, November 27, 2022

First Sunday of Advent

We are delighted that you chose to join us for worship this morning! Mask wearing is now optional. Please continue to wear a mask if you are not vaccinated, or if you are immunocompromised in any way. Please also continue to wear masks if that is what is most comfortable for you. If you are feeling under the weather in any way, please stay home and take advantage of watching our services on line. Hearing assist devices are available—our ushers will be happy to help you with any needs that arise!

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Candle Liturgy (Tirabassi) Gary Thompson

We are waiting. We are frustrated and tired. So much of our world seems caught in turmoil. The darkness closes in on us. Where is the hope?

In the darkness God lights the first candle of Advent. The divine word is sent to a young teen in a little lad in the Mideast. "I'm going to bring a new life into the world, to bring about change, to offer love and salvation." What will be her answer? We listen with bated breath.

Let it happen as you say, O God. May the fruit of my womb bring good news to us all.
(We light the first candle)

As you brought the word of hope into Mary and through her to our world, rekindle anew in us this season a sense of hope as we prepare to celebrate your nativity.
Amen.

Centering Song: "God Be with You Till We Might"

*We Share Christ's Peace

(by waving, smiling, sharing the peace sign, or bowing toward our friends)

We are Called to Worship (Shuman) Gary Thompson

We don't always know what time it is...

But according to Jesus, it is time to watch.

We're not always sure what we should wear...

But according to the Spirit, we should wear garments of light.

We're not always sure what we should do...

But according to God, we should always seek good for those around us.

We Join in Song: Hymn #211 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (Verses 1 and 2)

Opening Prayer (Shuman)

Architect of the Kingdom's streets: You teach us all we need to know, if we will but open our hearts, and listen to yours. You challenge us to quit working the night shift in sin's sweat shops and to dance in the Light of Advent joy.

Seeker of our Good: you sneak in and steal our lives out of death's tight grasp. You wander the streets of our world, sweeping up our sins, casting them into the dustbins of our past.

Holy Spirit: you are as close to us as breath in our lungs, helping us to treat everyone with honor and respect; healing us with serenity in these days of stress; taking us by the hand to walk us home to the kingdom.

God in Community, Holy in One, help us to be faithful watchers, as we pray. Amen.

Children's Time Wendy Spendiff

We Pray Together

Joys and Concerns

Silent Prayer/Reflection

Pastoral Prayer

We Offer Our Gifts

*Doxology #2036 "Give Thanks" / Offertory Prayer

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son. Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son. And now let the weak say I am strong, let the poor say I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us. And now let the weak say I am strong, let the poor say I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks, give thanks!

We Hear the Scripture Reading... Isaiah 2: 1-5

We Join in Song: Hymn #196 "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

We Hear the Gospel Reading... Matthew 24: 36-44

The Message Pastor Nick

We Remember What We Believe and We Affirm Our Faith/The Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

We Share in Holy Communion

We Pray Together The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

We Join in Song: Hymn #2266 "Here is Bread, Here is Wine"

Blessing (Scifres)

Peace be with you.

We go forth to bring peace to the world.

Sending Song: Hymn #3154 "Draw the Circle Wide"

ADVENT DECORATION AND SOUP POTLUCK DINNER

Join is for a fun evening of decorating the sanctuary for Advent/ Christmas season on Friday, December 2nd. We will start our night with a soup potluck dinner in Fellowship Hall at 6pm followed by decking the halls! All are welcome.



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