

# Newtonville United Methodist Church

Sunday, December 4, 2022

Second 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) *Sandy Rivenburg*  
(Light first candle)

We are still waiting. One candle in the darkness doesn't offer much light. And with a promise to act comes responsibility to respond. Taking a risk in a threatening world goes against our need to run and hide.

**Poor Joseph, caught in a dilemma. Do what society expects and distance yourself from what might appear scandalous. Or stick by the frail child facing pregnancy.**

**What will his choice be?**

"Mary I'm here. We'll go through this together." A second candle now flickers in the darkness.

(Light second Candle)

**It takes courage, O God to stand with those who would do your work. May we find strength to offer our support to your good news. Amen.**

Centering Song: "Together We Serve"

\*We Share Christ's Peace

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

We are Called to Worship (Shuman) *Sandy Rivenburg*

We gather in this comfortable space, to prepare for a new day...

**A day when the world and the lamb will get an apartment together.**

So prepare your hearts for the day with peace will rule the earth...

When the leopard and the kind will share a mat a naptime.

Prepare the way, the way where old notions are overturned...

When the cow and the bear will have coffee, and their children will play in the backyard.

We Join in Song: Hymn #211 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (Verses 3 and 4)

Opening Prayer (Shuman)

God of wonders, you continually stun us with your gifts of Advent: your welcoming heart with room for every single person; your ancient words of hope which remain as fresh as the breeze through the trees; your passion for justice, so all might be set free.

**Root of Jesse: Branch of righteousness: you do not judge by what your eyes see or your ears might hear. You look at the poor, and see your mother and your sisters, you open your heart to the lost, and welcome your brothers and father.**

Wisdom from on high: as we stand in silence, pour the transforming waters of grace and peace over us. Whisper your Word to us, lest we rely on ours too much. Place the shawl of compassion around our shoulders that we might be your servants.

**God in Community, Holy in One, listen to our words and to our hearts, as we pray. Amen.**

Children's Time *Sandy Rivenburg*

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 Epistle Reading... Romans 15:4-13

We Join in Song: Hymn #436 "The Voice of God Is Calling"

We Hear the Scripture Reading... Isaiah 11:1-10

The Message "Whose Voice Are You Listening To?" Nancy Goddard

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.

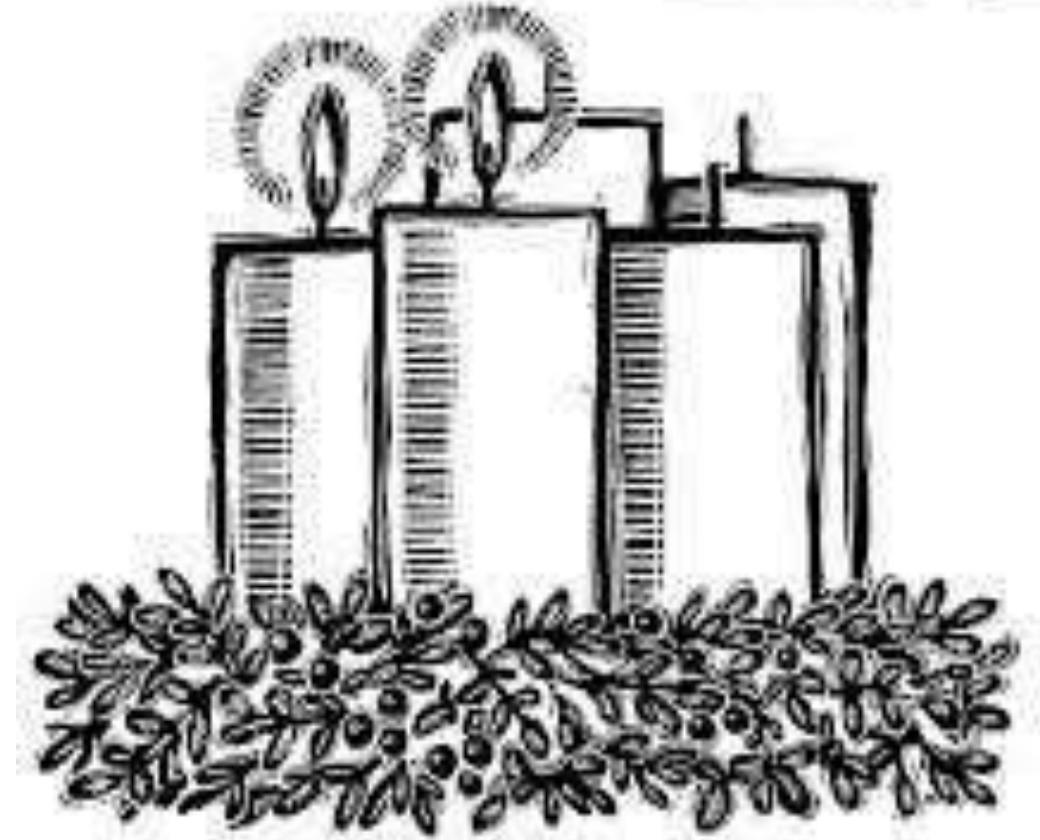
We Join in Song: Hymn #620 "One Bread, One Body"

Blessing (Beu)

Live in harmony with one another, through the hope we find in Christ Jesus. Act with righteousness and peace, that justice may flourish and peace may abound. We will love with hope and grace, so that joy may fill our days, like sunshine on a cold winter's day. Amen!

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

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