November 29, 2026
1st Sunday of Advent
Hanging of the Greens

Announcements

Prelude

Introduction To the Service

Pastor: …Many People shall come and say:

ALL:
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that God may teach us God's ways and that we may walk in God's paths." ***Is. 2:2-3***
With What shall we come to God's house?

Pastor:
Bring branches of cedar and holly, bring evergreens and a pine tree, hang wreaths and garlands.

ALL:
Make the church fragrant with the smell of living things and our holy play. In acts of hanging greens and listening to the words of prophets and seers let us make our hearts and this space a place of inward and outward preparation for the One who comes to give us second birth.

Opening Prayer Liturgist
My God, my God you are the glory, a Divine Creator, One Always Present allowing us to be closer to your grace and everlasting love. You love us. Enter us by opening our minds and touching our hearts for a better understanding of your light. The Son of God came to us in a season of beginning. Allowing himself to become a physical presence on this earth to embrace, save and forgive the meek, the forgotten and the wayward. Bless us for Christ came in as a lamb and went out like a lion, our redeemer now and forever, Amen.
By: Jeremiah S. Rainville

Opening Hymn "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" UMH 196

Responsive Reading: Liturgist

Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors! That the Ruler of Glory may come in.
Who is the Ruler of Glory?
The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!
Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors! That the ruler of glory may come in.
Who is the Ruler of glory?
The Lord of hosts, the Lord is the Ruler of Glory! *Psalm 24:7-10*

1st Lesson Hosea 14:4, 8-9 Liturgist

I will heal their disloyalty; I will love them freely, for my anger has turned from them.
O Ephraim, what have I to do with idols? It is I who answer and look after you.
I am like an evergreen cypress; your fruit comes from me.

Those who are wise understand these things; those who are discerning know them.
For the ways of the Lord are right, and the upright walk in them, but transgressors stumble in them.

2nd Lesson Isaiah 41: 17-20 Liturgist

When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none,
and their tongue is parched with thirst, I the Lord will answer them,
I the God of Israel will not forsake them. I will open rivers on the bare heights
and fountains in the midst of the valleys;
I will make the wilderness a pool of water and the dry land springs of water.
I will put in the wilderness the cedar, the acacia, the myrtle, and the olive;
I will set in the desert the cypress, the plane and the pine together,
so that all may see and know, all may consider and understand,
that the hand of the Lord has done this, the Holy One of Israel has created it.

Centering Hymn O Come O Come Emmanuel UMH 211 1st verse

3rd Lesson Revelation 22:12-14, 17 Liturgist

See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.
The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.' And let everyone who hears say, 'Come.'
And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

Blessing of the Christmas Tree Unison
Holy Lord, we come with joy to celebrate the birth of your Son, who rescued us from the darkness of sin by making the cross a tree of life and light. May this tree, arrayed in splendor, remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ, that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines in our hearts. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Blessing of the Advent Wreath Pastor

Lighting of the Advent Candle Mary Hunter
The prophet Isiah declares…for the fulfillment of our salvation.

All: Congregation: When God feels far away, and our lament feels too heavy to bear, we remember God's steadfast love. May this love empower us to wait and watch in hope for the day when God's kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven.

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hollowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory now and forever. Amen.

Offering

Offertory	*I Want to Be Ready*	SOV Choir

Doxology

Closing Hymn	*Soon and Very Soon*	UMH 706

Benediction