

Order of Worship
First Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE: "Music of the Night" (by Jackson Berkley) **Nadine Shank**
WORDS OF WELCOME **Dot Lambert**

*****CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: O Lord, awaken us to watch and wait for the birth of Jesus.

People: Raise our weary bodies and fill us with hope of new day.

Leader: Open us to your Truth to believe the story of your divine love.

People: We watch for the Advent of new heavens and a new earth. We pray for peace. We look for hope in the coming of Christ's coming. May we turn to God with joyfulness. May we find wisdom and growth in the miracle of Christ's birth.

*****OPENING HYMN: " People Look East" UMH # 202**

INVOCATION Dot Lambert

Leader: O dear Lord, you are indeed the source of all that there is. We come before you to find peace, to find hope and to find ourselves. You bring us joy! You give us surprises! You help us to feel less alone! O God, grant us your presence and unconditional love.

People: Instill in us, O Lord, a sense of mystery and wonder as we await the child born in a manger.

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING (Rochelle Oelrich & Fred Lambert)

1st We gather around the Advent Spray today, knowing that we are not perfect. We watch, we observe, we live and learn.

2nd We light the candle of Hope to honor and recognize God's presence. We celebrate God's gift in our lives, for we know that through God's love, we will live again. [*light 1st purple candle*] Let us pray together.

ALL: Eternal God, we thank you, that through all the years you have given us hope to live in anticipation of your grace. Help us to protect the innocent, to care about the sick and the lonely. May your Light give us strength and hope throughout all our days.

AMEN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION [in unison] Rev. David F. Hurst

O God, we confess that we are look for you in all the wrong places. We seek you among the learned and powerful. Help us to seek you in our daily paths. Forgive when us we ignore those in need. Forgive us when we feel our lives are fine and that we need not serve others. Forgive our rudeness and disrespect of others, God's gift of a baby, born to Mary and Joseph open us the Light of kindness and love. Teach us to notice those in need. All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ. AMEN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, In the hope of Christmas' coming again, God forgives our sins and cleanses us from all transgressions. **People: Thanks be to God.**

***** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

SPECIAL MUSIC: 'Intermezzo:Souvenir de Vienne' (by Heinz Provost)

Psalter Reading: Psalm 122 (Red Hymnal pgs.795-796) **Dot Lambert**
JOYS AND CONCERNS Rev. David F. Hurst

Pastoral Prayers, Silent Prayer, The Lord's Prayer

*****Response "Glory Be to the Father"**

SCRIPTURE READING/First Lesson: Isaiah 2:1-5 Dot Lambert
(Chair Bible Old Testament pgs. 631-632)

*****Hymn of Preparation: "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" UMH # 196**

SCRIPTURE READING/Second Lesson: Mark 24:36-44
(Chair Bible New Testament) Rev. David F. Hurst

SERMON: 'The Day is Drawing Near!' Rev. David F. Hurst

Thanksgiving and Sacrament of Holy Communion

(Red Hymnal pgs. 15-16)

All are welcome to partake.

Ministry of Giving: 'Vouchsafe, O Lord' (by G.F. Handel) Nadine Shank

*****Doxology**

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God the source of all our gifts; Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts Praise the Spirit! Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"

Prayer of Dedication

*****PARTING HYMN: "Blessed be the God of Israel" UMH # 209**

BENEDICTION

ALL: O awesome and loving God in the glow of our Advent candles, may the vision of you love expand beyond our personal hopes and dreams. May we include all people in your love, your righteousness and justice, your mercy and your grace. We pray and hope that God's Peace will come to earth. AMEN

Flowers this morning are given by Claire LeDuc in honor of Bobby, Lisa and Family.

Attendance for November 24th - Adults

Church Happenings for Week of December 1st

Sunday, December 1st - Morning Worship (Communion)	10:00am
Sunday, December 1st - Survey Fellowship (Library)	11:00am
Wednesday, December 4th - Office Hours 8:30am - 1pm	

Church Happenings for Week of December 8th

Sunday, December 8th - Morning Worship	10:00am
Wednesday, December 10th - Office Hours 8:30am - 1pm	
Wednesday, December 10th - Mutual Ministry Team Mtg.	10:00am

MUTUAL MINISTRY LUNCHEON

Today following our morning worship please join the Mutual Ministry Team in the Library for a sit, chat and discuss the church survey. All are welcome to join them.

STEWARDSHIP

If you have not already filled out an Annual Giving Pledge Card, they are located on the Usher's Table in the back of the Sanctuary. Please place it in the offering plate. Thank You / Finance Committee.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS - Please be sure to place your order for your Christmas Poinsettia(s) no later than next Sunday, December 8th. Payable by check to CUMC and give to Virginia. Forms are on the Usher's Table.

LIVING NATIVITY - Two weeks from today. What is needed to be done? We could use a few people willing to be backup 'actors' in case someone needs a break from the cold. AND - Judy Cooper is requesting for a few people to make 3 dozen cookies to offer as refreshment. Sign up on Usher's Table

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE - Tuesday, December 24th - 6:00pm
Six Scripture readers for are needed for our Christmas Eve Service. Please sign up this morning if you are interested. Sign up on Usher's Table.

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