

December 1, 2019 | 1st Sunday of Advent, Year A

Color: Blue | Service of Word and Table

***indicates to stand as able. Due to the sacredness of this time, please silence electronic devices. Please greet those with whom you are sitting!*

Morning Meditation

What's the difference between living a life in fear and living a life aware? Rev. Anna Blaedel

Prelude *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* arr. Mark Hayes

Choral Introit *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* UMH 211

**Call to Worship

Beloveds, pay attention. For the Holy Arrival comes at an unexpected hour.

The in-breaking of Love is a mysterious encounter.

Let us prepare for the advent of God.

With hope, we remember that salvation is near.

By tending to the needs of the world, we anticipate the promises of God.

With joy, we welcome the miracle of God-with-us.

**Opening Prayer

Mysterious One, keep us attentive to your presence around and within.

Do not let us get distracted by what numbs or overwhelms. Encourage us in all that makes us alive to you and the Sacred possibilities for transformation before us. Amen.

****Hymn** *People, Look East* UMH 202

1st Testament *Isaiah 2:1-5, Common English Bible*

Children's Moment

Advent Litany "Lighting the Candle of Hope" Martha Spong
The prophet Isaiah shared a word with the weary world, a vision of the

day when God will bring our conflicts to an end. God's house will be on top of the highest mountain, and people from all over will come to it.

God will judge all countries and settle our arguments.

Weapons will be turned into tools for growth.

Wars will come to an end.

As we wait faithfully for God's time, we light the candle of Hope.

Our hope is in God, who will bring all nations together.

Advent Hymn *Now It's Time to Light the Candle v.1* see insert

Anthem *An Advent Prayer* Allen Pote

Epistle *Romans 13:11-14, Common English Bible*

Prayer Requests

Morning Prayer *There's a Song, v. 2* TFWS 2141

The Lord's Prayer

Gospel *Matthew 24:36-44, Common English Bible*

Message

Holy Communion *A Service of Word and Table II* UMH 12

Beloveds, there are so many ways to spend our time, to spend our money, to spend our emotional and spiritual resources. But here, we choose to gather them together in order to invest in what matters most: justice, each other, spiritual transformation, and the renewal of the world. May it be so, as we bring our gifts together.

Offertory *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* arr. Lee Dengler

****Doxology** UMH 94

Prayer of Dedication

God of Unexpected Encounters, you awaken us to quiet wisdom. You captivate us with your love of all life. You draw our attention to the movements of the Spirit in our midst. Though we get preoccupied with the trivial, may these offerings be a sign of our desire to seek you in all that we do. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Church of the Redeemer UMC

December 1, 2019



Hymns

We Are Called

TFWS 2172

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God, we give you thanks for this meal that nourishes us, body and soul. May it sustain us as we confront evil that keeps us from living the lives you intended for us and for all your creatures and creations. Until every life can be lived abundantly, be our guide, be our hope, be our comforter. **Amen.**

enfleshed

****Hymn**

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

UMH 720

Choral Benediction

The First Noel

UMH 245

Benediction

These days cry out for our attention.
The earth groans.
People are laboring for justice.
Divine truths bubble up from within - if we'll listen.
May we go from here with ears, and eyes, and hearts open to the Sacred,
calling for us with gifts of wisdom
and invitations to courage.
In assurance the Spirit goes with us,
let us go in peace.

Postlude

Yule Medley

arr. Eugene Butler

Today's Liturgy: Advent Litany, Martha Spong. All other liturgy from Enfleshed, Liturgy That Matters, December 1, 2019.

Our Mission

We celebrate God's grace and love for all people and strive to follow Jesus' teachings. You will find love and affirmation here, exactly as you are – No Exceptions.

Rev. Shannon V. Trenton, Pastor
Shanelle Cook, Music Director

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