



Hanging of the Christmas Greens - A Service for the Beginning of Advent - November 28, 2021

Prelude *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*, Traditional French Tune arr. by C.E. Walz Darshia Allwine

Welcome/Announcements Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Ministry Moment Joana Arthur

Threshold Moment

***Lighting of the Advent Wreath** The Coltrin Family

***Advent Wreath Prayer**

Reader: Let us pray

Holy Living God, Blessed Jesus, Guiding Spirit,
alight within us Your flame of hope this day.

Grant us openness to hear Your message.

Grant us courage to be Your messengers in the world,
creating more hope in the midst of fear.

And with the angel messengers above us, among us and within us, we sing...

***Hymn** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (all verses) UMH #196

Children's Message Linda Biscardo

Prayer Song Surely the Presence of the Lord UMH #328

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.
I can hear the brush of angel's wings,
I see glory on each face;
surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.*

Prayers of the People

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. AMEN.

Dramatic Reading of Scripture Luke 1: 5-20, 23-24, 57-66 Sam Patricola

Homily Make Ready a People: More Hope Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

The Hanging of the Greens

Litany of Celebration

Pastor: In the days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hill;
all the nations shall stream to it.
Many peoples shall come and say:

People: "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."

A child says: With what shall we come to God's house?		Lilly Jordan
Lay Reader: Bring branches of cedar and holly, bring evergreens and a pine tree, hang wreaths and garlands.		Sam Patricola
People: 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 the prophets who foretold the saving work of God, let us make our hearts and this space a place of inward and outward preparation for the coming of Christ, our hope.		
The Meaning of the Season of Advent		Peggy Brown
Hymn	Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming vs. 1 & 3	UMH #216
Christmas In America		Jordan R. Biscardo
Lessons of Christmas		Kathy Henry
Hymn	Hark! the Herald Angels Sing! v. 2	UMH #240
The Sanctuary Evergreens		The Jordan Family
Hymn	Lift Up Your Heads vs. 1 & 4	UMH #213
The Christmas Tree		Joana Arthur & Jessica Posey
Congregational Song		
The Christmas Poinsettia		The Hagel Family
Hymn	Blessed Be the God of Israel vs. 1&2	UMH #209
The Paraments and Advent Colors		Pat Hobbs & Shea Porter-Miller
Hymn	Emmanuel, Emmanuel (sung twice)	UMH #204
The Nativity		The Adams Family
Hymn	O Come, O Come, Emmanuel vs. 1 & 2	UMH #211
The Gifts of Christmas		Robert Miller & Siobhan Porter-Miller
Hymn	In the Bleak Midwinter vs. 1 & 4	UMH #221
Christmas Caroling		Bruce Bartolain
Hymn	People, Look East vs. 1 & 3	UMH #202
The Christ Of Christmas		Zach Chambers
*Hymn	Good Christian Friends, Rejoice vs. 2 & 3	UMH #224
*Benediction		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
Postlude	O Thou Joyful, O Thou Wonderful, Falk & Tattersall; Arise, Your Light Is Come, Duck & Walter	Darshia Allwine

*Please stand if able.