



**Welcome to
Crestholme Presbyterian Church
1st Sunday in Advent
November 29, 2020**

**At the *, please stand, if you are able.
Large Print Hymnals and Bibles, and Hearing Assist Devices, are available**

Gather for Worship

PRELUDE

"Savior of the Nations Come"

Buxtehude

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zQxVnNh9v_0

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BELLS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

"Creator of the Stars of Night"

Choir

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fG8Wj0yODLY>

LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Mrs. Alsada Richardson

One: A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord— and he will delight in the fear of the Lord. We light the first Advent candle as a hint of God's promised light in the darkness.

All: He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

One: The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the

knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. We light the first candle as a sign of our hope!

All: In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious. May all the promises of Advent be born in Bethlehem, and in us, this season. With a prophet's promise and a living hope, let us worship God.

*** ADVENT CAROL "Light the Advent Candle" Choir and Congregation**

"Light the Advent candle, one: Now the waiting has begun;
We have started on our way, time to think of Christmas Day.
Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night.
Candle, candle burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light."

OPENING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, today is the first day of Advent. Today is the New Year in our Christian calendar. In the midst of turmoil, temptation, chaos, and strife you continue to be our hope. You will not grow faint or be discouraged till you have established justice in the earth. Those who never knew you will hope in you. Thank you God of hope because you fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may abound in hope. Amen.

*** OPENING HYMN "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" Blue Hymnal #9**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qcIIZpnZPgo>

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus Christ, you have promised to come again as one breaking through the clouds with great power and glory. We confess that we hide our heads in trivial matters. We do not love our neighbors because our ambitions are more important. We do not hear the cry of the needy because we are busy accumulating wealth. We have become drunk with the pursuit of power because we fail to put our trust in your power. Forgive us, we pray. Free us that we may have eyes to see your glory, ears to hear your liberating gospel, and lives to devote to the service of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (<http://mastersdust.com/2012/11/27/prayers-and-liturgy-for-the-1st-sunday-of-advent/>)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The LORD is our light and our salvation-- whom shall we fear? The LORD is the stronghold of our lives-- of whom shall we be afraid? Brothers and Sisters, let us trust the Good News of the Gospel, in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new! Hallelujah!

*** GLORIA PATRI Blue Hymnal # 579**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUBxpypSblw>

*** SHARE THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

One: Peace be with you!

All: And also with you!

One: As God's forgiven people, share the peace of Christ with each other (from your seats, please).

Hear the Word of God

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Abba, Father, make known to us by your Holy Spirit in us how great among us are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in us, our hope of Glory. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 64:1-9

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah%2064:1-9&version=NIV>

PSALM

Psalm 80:1-7

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+80%3A1-7++&version=NIV>

NEW TESTAMENT

1 Cor. 1:3-9

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Corinthians%201:3-9&version=NIV>

CHORAL ANTHEM

"The King Shall Come"

Choir

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B6pquFuGhTU>

GOSPEL READING

Mark 13:24-37

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+13%3A24-37&version=NIV>

SERMON

"Walking in the Light of the Lord"
Ephesians 5:8

Dr. Carlos Baladez

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light.

Have you ever been in a situation that seemed hopeless and asked yourself "God, where are you?" Would you describe that hopeless place as dark, dreary, or empty? In Genesis chapter 1, the words of Scripture paint that exact picture. "Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep..."

Have you ever felt trapped with nowhere to go? If you go forward, a lion awaits you. Yet if you retreat, the serpent is there to bite you. Moses and the Israelites were in this very predicament. The Red Sea laid before them while the rushing troops of Pharaoh were furiously approaching. Hopeless and terrified, the Israelites asked, "Now what? God where are you?"

Have you ever been in that place where your creditors came up to you and told you to pay up or they were going to take away your car, or your house, or they were going to garnish your wages all because you found yourself in unprecedented circumstances beyond your control? God, where are you?

Have you ever had that unpleasant crash where things were going well in your life and because of a series of bad decisions you made you wound up in the pig pen? Perhaps your pig pen was bankruptcy. Or maybe your pig pen was a nasty ending relationship. Or perhaps your pig pen was a trip to the emergency room because the depression you were experiencing became

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

All Mighty God, God of Hope and abundance, we bring these gifts to you in honor of you. It is because you first gave to us that we in turn are now able to give to you. Take these gifts, bless them, and multiply them for thy kingdom's sake. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

*** CLOSING HYMN** "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" **Blue Hymnal # 38**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ljrf6G1kmt0>

*** BENEDICTION**

Go, people of God, go in the power of His might and in the fact that Jesus is our Hope, our GREAT hope now and forever more. Go, go share this hope with who so ever will... Amen.

The End of this Worship Service — The Beginning of Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship this morning! We're glad that you're here! If you do not have a church home, we invite you to become part of our compassionate church family... ask Fred, Dick or an Elder about meaningful participation and membership!

We continue to adhere to our Covid-19 protocol. Thank you.

We will celebrate communion next Sunday 12/06/2020.