

RISE UP AND BE RESTORED

November 27, 2022

As I make my slow pilgrimage through the world, a certain sense of beautiful mystery seems to gather and grow.
- A. C. Benson



WELCOME

PRELUDE *All Glory Be to God on High* arr. Zachau

CALL TO WORSHIP

I lift my eyes up to the hills, from where does my help come?

My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

God's creation is beautiful. God's presence is even more beautiful.

Wherever two or three are gathered in Christ's name, God is here among us.

Come, let us worship the God of Creation, the God of Community, the God whose presence is filled with healing power.

Let us follow Jesus, for Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

HYMN *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* no. 694

CALL TO CONFESSION

Gracious God, we welcome you to our house, the sacred space we have built to gather together as your people. Here we come to offer you our thanksgiving and praise in response to the abundance of your blessings. Here we share with you our prayers of confession and petition, for they lie heavy on our hearts. Even knowing that you are here and everywhere, we come longing to hear you say, "I am with you always." Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Compassionate, Forgiving God, we trespass on your mercy and take your favor for granted.

We think only of ourselves.

We forget the lessons of those who came before us, and ignore our responsibility to those who will follow us.

We grow proud and seek power.

We do not see the destruction of our actions and how it distances us from you.

We do not recognize our selfishness for what it is, or where it leads us.

We grow weary of fighting the good fight.

**Bring us home to you, Merciful God.
Restore our strength.**

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God is good. Forgiveness flows from Jesus.

The Holy Spirit brings peace and power.

We are blessed from generation to generation by the Mighty One, whose strength and mercy are forever.

SIGNS OF PEACE AND UNITY IN CHRIST

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'" (*Psalms 122:1 NRSV*)

We are glad. Whether we drove in or climbed up, whether we logged on or tuned in. We are glad to be here in this community, with this family. It is a place of joyful hope, of radical welcome. It is a place where, together, we can wait in wondrous anticipation of the kingdom to come.

"Many peoples shall come and say, '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.'" (*Isaiah 2:3 NRSV*).

We light this candle as a sign of our hope, our joyous hope that we can be restored – our faith restored, our strength restored, our confidence restored, our joy restored as we watch and wait with all God's people for the promise to be fulfilled

(*Sung Response no. 206, vs. 1*)

I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God sent the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus.

In him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of wisdom, we approach your Word with wonder, for everything that was written in the scriptures is there to offer us hope.

**Lord, open our ears that we might hear,
open our hearts that we might feel, open our minds
that we might learn and open our souls that we
might grow in our relationship with you. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 2:1-5 CEB

This is what Isaiah, Amoz's son, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the LORD's house will be the highest of the mountains. It will be lifted above the hills; peoples will stream to it. Many nations will go and say, "Come, let's go up to the LORD's mountain, to the house of Jacob's God so that he may teach us his ways and we may walk in God's paths." Instruction will come from Zion; the LORD's word from Jerusalem. God will judge between the nations, and settle disputes of mighty nations. Then they will beat their swords into iron plows and their spears into pruning tools. Nation will not take up sword against nation; they will no longer learn how to make war. Come, house of Jacob, let's walk by the LORD's light.

MUSIC *Do You Know Who Made the Day?*
Cherub Choir Hal Hopson

PASSING OF THE FRIENDSHIP FOLDERS

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

MUSIC *Prepare the Way of the Lord* William Rowan
Chancel Choir

*Prepare, prepare the way of the Lord!
Prepare the way! Make straight his path.*

*Every valley shall be exalted, every hill made low;
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough places plain.*

*And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all mankind shall see it, shall see it together.*

Prepare, prepare the way of the Lord!...

Isaiah 40:4-5

SCRIPTURE Psalm 122 CEB

I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let's go to the LORD's house!" Now our feet are standing in your gates, Jerusalem! Jerusalem is built like a city joined together in unity. That is where the tribes go up—the LORD's tribes! It is the law for Israel to give thanks there to the LORD's name, because the thrones of justice are there—the thrones of the house of David! Pray that Jerusalem has peace: "Let those who love you have rest. Let there be peace on your walls; let there be rest on your fortifications." For the sake of my family and friends, I say, "Peace be with you, Jerusalem." For the sake of the LORD our God's house I will pray for your good.

HYMN *Come, Let Us Dream*
vs. 1-3 (tune: O Waly Waly)

**Come let us dream God's dream again.
Come, one and all, let us ascend
the mountaintop where those of old
saw God's new day on earth unfold.**

**The lame shall walk, the blind shall see,
the doors swing wide, all prisoners free,
the lowly raised, the proud brought low.
This is God's dream: let justice flow.**

**When hatred ends and war shall cease,
so all may dwell in deepest peace,
then be assured the time is near
when perfect love casts out all fear.**

MESSAGE *Rise Up and Be Restored*

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.**

OFFERING

*You may give your offering by text- Text UMCWC \$50
to 73256, by using the QR code on your screen,
at umcwc.org, through the mail, by automated giving
through Realm, or by dropping it off at our office.*

OFFERING VIDEO *3 Minute Theology: What Is Worship?*

OFFERING RESPONSE no. 213, vs. 2

**Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.**

OFFERING PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* no. 203

BENEDICTION

Go forth and walk the path of Jesus. Leave God's house as one instructed in the ways of the Lord. Take the weapons of your life and turn them into instruments of peace and justice.

Praise be to our God who shows us the way!

POSTLUDE *Behold, the Morning Star*
Ellacombe/Ellson

Bold text indicates congregational response.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Message: Rev. Dr. Truman Brooks
Liturgists: Rev. Molly Dee Rounsley, Rev. Allen Keller
Reader: Grace Muzzo
Message for Growing Christians: Kristi Largoza
Cherub Choir Director: Karen Rotz
Chancel Choir Director: Mike Muzzo
Organist: Steve Campitelli
Acolyte: Ryan Largoza
Lighting the Candles on the Advent Wreath:
The Fenn Family
Live Stream Team: Tim Case, Holly & Todd Grimm,
Jake Joslin, Heidi Krug, David Maxwell,
Brad Rush, Zeke Smith, Cory Smith (leader)



Advent Quiz

- What does the word Advent (from the Latin adventus) mean?
 - Before Christmas
 - Arrival or coming
 - To go on an adventure
 - A website for online Christmas coupons
 - All of the above
- True or False: Like the 40 days of Lent, Advent is a fixed number of days before Christmas.
 - True
 - False
- Which of these Advent hymns was written by Charles Wesley?
 - "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"
 - "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"
 - "Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
 - "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"
- Who originated Watch Night services?
 - Martin Luther
 - John Wesley
 - John the Baptist
 - Henry VIII
 - President William McKinley
- According to tradition, approximately how far did Mary travel to visit Elizabeth?
 - 10 miles
 - 50 miles
 - 100 miles
 - 500 miles
- Why are the Advent candles arranged in the shape of a circle?
 - They make a wreath, and wreaths are Christmassy.
 - It is the easiest way to see all four candles.
 - It takes up the least space.
 - Circles symbolize eternity.
 - None of the above.
- What is a Jesse Tree?
 - Another name for a Christmas tree
 - The tree decorated with Chrismons
 - A tree that blossoms at Christmastime
 - A representation of Jesus' family tree
- On the third Sunday in Advent, some churches light a pink candle in the Advent wreath. Why?
 - Pink (or rose) is a color of joy.
 - Pink signifies Mary.
 - It represents the positive outlook we have in Christ.
 - The rose color symbolizes Jesus' childhood.
 - The rosebud is a sign of new birth.
- Do you know how the Advent calendar began?
 - Chalk lines were drawn on the door to mark the days.
 - Religious families hung pictures on the wall, one for each day.
 - A candle was lit for each of the 24 days in December.
 - A mother fixed candies on a cardboard calendar for her son.
 - All of the above
- What is the meaning of the Hebrew word "Emmanuel"?
 - Mighty king
 - Christ child
 - God with us
 - All of the above
 - None of the above

Count Your Blessings

"Count Your Blessings," intended as a song for youth, first appeared in "Songs for Young People," which was published in 1897 by the Methodist Book Concern, a precursor to The United Methodist Publishing House. It became a favorite, quickly gaining popularity throughout the world. "Like a beam of sunlight, Count Your Blessings has brightened up the dark places of the earth." (wrote one reviewer.)

Verse 1:

When upon life's billows you are tempest toss'd,
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord has done.

Verse 2:

Are you ever burden'd with a load of care?
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?
Count your many blessings, ev'ry doubt will fly
And you will be singing as the days go by.

Verse 3:

When you look at others with their lands and gold,
Think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold,
Count your many blessings, money cannot buy
Your reward in heaven, nor your home on high.

Verse 4:

So amid the conflict, whether great or small,
Do not be discouraged, God is over all;
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,
Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.

Chorus:

Count your blessings, name them one by one,
Count your blessings, see what God has done!
Count your blessings, name them one by one,
Count your many blessings, see what God has done.

Answers to the Advent Quiz

- What does the word Advent (from the Latin adventus) mean? (Arrival or coming)
- True or False: Like the 40 days of Lent, Advent is a fixed number of days before Christmas. (False)
- Which of these Advent hymns was written by Charles Wesley? ("Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus")
- Who originated Watch Night services? (John Wesley)
- According to tradition, approximately how far did Mary travel to visit Elizabeth? (100 miles)
- Why are the Advent candles arranged in the shape of a circle? (Circles symbolize eternity.)
- What is a Jesse Tree? (A representation of Jesus' family tree)
- On the third Sunday in Advent, some churches light a pink candle in the Advent wreath. Why? (Pink (or rose) is a color of joy.)
- Do you know how the Advent calendar began? (All of the above)
- What is the meaning of the Hebrew word "Emmanuel" (God with us)