

# Northminster Presbyterian Church

*Welcomes You to Worship*

November 28, 2021

1st Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m.

Ministers: Everyone in the Congregation

The Reverend Dwight McCormick II, Pastor

## Prelude

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

WESLEY

## Welcome and Opening Prayer

### \*Call to Worship

Carl Ahlm

Leader: Stand up and raise your heads!

**People: Our redemption is drawing near!**

Leader: Let us lift our hearts;

**People: We lift them up to the Lord! The days are surely coming when all things shall be made new.**

## Hymn (sung)

“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

Glory to God

## Call to Confession

Carl Ahlm

### Unison Prayer of Confession

**“Wipe away all tears for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.” Holy God, could it be true? Are you about to do a new thing to make our hearts sing? Even in a weary world when so many are tired and tired of being tired? Forgive us for singing the same old song of cynicism. Forgive us for keeping quiet instead of speaking truth, for standing back instead of stepping up. Strengthen our hearts in holiness that we would increase and abound in love for one another and all of your creation. In the name of the One who is to come again, we pray.**

*Silence is kept for individual confession of sins*

Leader: Amen

### Assurance of Pardon

Carl Ahlm

Leader: All who put their trust in Christ face divine judgment without fear, for the judge is their redeemer.

**People: Therefore, be at peace; in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

### Gloria Patri (sung)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### Joys and Concerns (Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer)

Carl Ahlm

### Lighting of First Advent Candle—Hope

Ruth George and Bob Triebelhorn

Leader: Watch and wait for Christ’s coming! Light Candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer. We light this candle in hope.

Hear God’s promise of hope from Jeremiah 33:14-16:

“The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called : “The LORD is our righteousness.’.”

Leader: Let us pray: Faithful God, out of death you bring life. Renew us in hope that we may be alert to the burgeoning of Christ’s advent among us.

**Congregation: God of promise, God of hope, in our darkness come**

**ALL: He came down that we may have hope; he came down that we may have hope; he came down that we may have hope, hallelujah forever more.**

### Pastoral Prayer and Prayer of Illumination

### Meditation

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

### First Reading

Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 22 & 23

Leader: Hear now what The Spirit is saying to The Church

**People: Thanks be to God**

### Second Reading

New Testament Lesson

Mark 14:32-42

Leader: Hear now what The Spirit is saying to The Church

**People: Thanks be to God**

### Sermon

“The Faithfulness of Christ”

Rev. Kevin Lawler

### Responding to the Word

**Stewardship Reminder** (Offering plate is outside the sanctuary on the table by door)

### Doxology (sung)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Affirmation of Faith (from inclusive language version of The Confession of 1967)**  
The risen Christ is the savior of all people. Those joined to him by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as God's reconciling community. Christ is head of this community, the church, which began with the apostles and continues through all generations. The same Jesus Christ is the judge of all people. His judgment discloses the ultimate seriousness of life and gives promise of God's final victory over the power of sin and death. To receive life from the risen Lord is to have life eternal; to refuse life from him is to choose the death which is separation from God. All who put their trust in Christ face divine judgment without fear, for the judge is their redeemer.

Hymn (sung)                      "Prepare the Way, O Zion"                      Glory to God

**Benediction**

Closing Chorus                      "Go Now in Peace"                      BESIG

Postlude                      "Fugue in e-minor"                      JS BACH

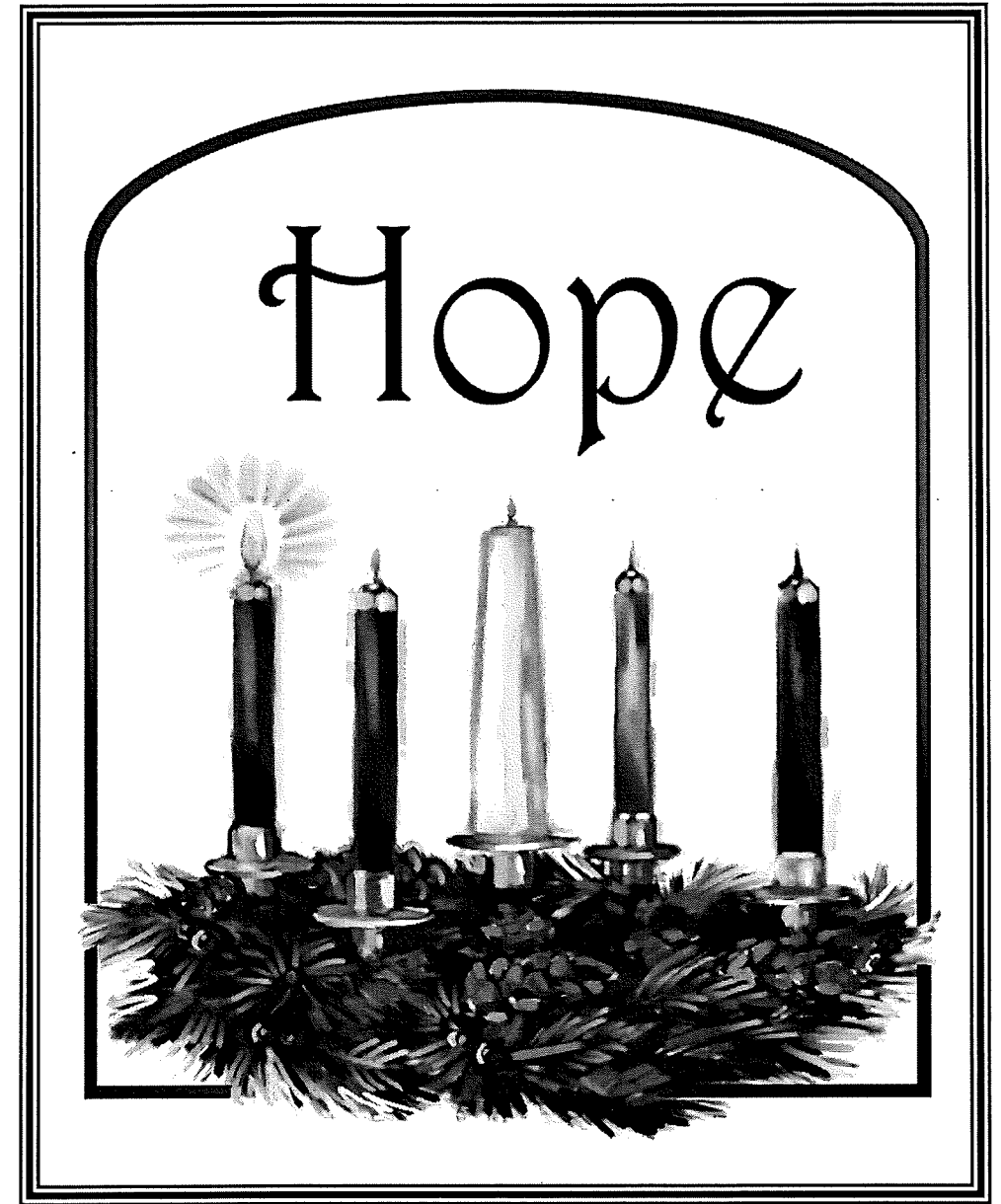
Thank you to David Hapner for leading us in song

Today's liturgy is provided by Andrew Taylor-Troutman  
and The Presbyterian Outlook

Please visit these links as we continue to be the Body of Christ in new ways:

[www.northminsterspringfield.org](http://www.northminsterspringfield.org)

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