

United Presbyterian Church  
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NOVEMBER 30, 2025

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude      *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Lighting the Advent Candle

David and Jacob Battle

Children of God, what are we waiting for?  
**We wait for dawn when light feels endless.**  
**We wait for the breaking of chains that bind.**  
We wait with the prophets whose words still echo,  
with ancestors who held hope close in exile,  
with weary souls who dare to believe again.  
**We wait, not with empty hands, but with open hearts,**  
**trusting the One whose promise is faithful still.**

Today we light one candle ...

*\* Gathering Song      Come Thou Long Expected Jesus      82*

*Come thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.*

*Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,  
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.*

Call to Confession

Sherri Kramer, Lay Reader

Prayer of Confession

Holy One, we confess that waiting wears us down. Our patience thins, our vision clouds and sometime our hope is only a faint ember. Yet you do not despise small beginnings; you breathe on our weakness with your Spirit, kindling the flame of faith we thought was gone. Renew us, O Lord, as we learn to wait in you. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

*Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!  
 Let every hill and valley a level way appear.  
 Greet one who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.  
 O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.*

\*Sharing the Peace of Christ

We Listen for God's Word

Scripture. Isaiah 2: 1-5 Pew Bible, Page 484

Anthem *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent/Lift Up Your Heads* Chancel Choir

Scripture Matthew 24: 36-44 Pew Bible, Page 701

Message Knowing What We Don't know Rev. Edward Dunn

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We Respond to God's Word

*\*Responding Song O Come, O Come Emanuel (Verses 1-2) 88*

*O come, O come Emanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
 that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
 Refrain: Rejoice ! Rejoice !  
 Emanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily:  
 to us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go.  
 (Refrain)*

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 debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen

Receiving our Offering

Offertory

My Tribute

Eric Avidson

\*Doxology    *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.*

Prayer of Dedication

\*Sending Song    *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout (Verse 1).*    100

*My soul cries out with a joyful shout  
that the God of my heart is great,  
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things  
that you bring to the ones that wait.*

*You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,  
and my weakness you did not spurn,  
so from east to west shall my name be blest.  
Could the world be about to turn?*

*Refrain: My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,  
and the world is about to turn.*

\*Blessing

Postlude