

Order of Worship November 27

Prelude: *The Prelude is offered as an invitation to prepare for worship.*

Two Advent Carols: *arr. W. Held*
“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” and “From Heaven Above”

Welcome and Announcements

Introit:

“Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in This Place”

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Steve and Janet Walter

Leader: We light this Advent Candle to express our Hope in Christ, the Light of the world, which the darkness has not overcome. Come, Lord Jesus, be our light and our salvation.

People: Let us walk in the hope of the Lord.

Call to Worship: Gary Frank, Lay Reader

Leader: Behold the Lord will pour out on the house of David, a Spirit of grace and mercy.

People: We rejoice for a King is coming bringing salvation and righteousness, riding on a donkey, and the world rejoices.

Leader: For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given.

People: He will reign on the throne of David with justice and righteousness now and forever more.

Leader: The zeal of the Lord will accomplish this.

***Opening Hymn:** 1 - “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

***Prayer of Confession:** *(in unison)*

We confess our sins, O Lord, to you our God and savior. When we have fallen, you have been faithful to lift us up. When we have strayed, you have been faithful to restore. Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts find forgiveness and acceptance as we confess our sins.

***Assurance of Pardon:**

Pastor: God has promised to forgive and restore all who come to him in penitence. He has given us His Spirit as a seal of his promise and His Son as the new covenant of his peace. Know that in Christ Jesus, we are forgiven.

***Congregational Response:**

*We are forgiven, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God, thanks be to God.
We are forgiven, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God, thanks be to God.*

Hymn: 310- "Jesus the Very Thought of Thee"

Dedication of Prayer Shawls and Children's Gifts

Dedication of Gifts & Offerings

***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.**

Scripture: John 3:2b-6; 15-18

Gary Frank, Lay Reader

Choral Anthem:

Choir

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"
music by Rowland H. Pritchard; arr. by James Q. Mulholland

Scripture: Mark 13:32-37

Dr. Frederick J. Finks

Sermon: "Watch"

Dr. Frederick J. Finks

Prayer and Lord's Prayer (*'debts' and 'debtors'*)

***Hymn:** Sung to the tune of "O Jesus I Have Promised"

There is a mighty question we ask when nations rage:
Just when will be Christ's coming, the ending of the age?
Take care, said Jesus clearly, for many will appear;
They'll claim to be Messiah, yet people should not fear.
For in the days of Noah, the people went along
In eating and in drinking, in merriment and song —
Then suddenly the world changed with great, surprising power;
So too will be Christ's coming, and no one knows the hour.

So keep awake and watchful; salvation is at hand!
Our hope is in Christ Jesus, and by God's grace we stand.
The night is almost over, we wait for God's new day,
And through the Holy Spirit, we follow Jesus' way.
Be ready in your living, for when you feed the poor,
Or give to thirsty children the water they long for,
And when you welcome strangers and help the ones in need,
Christ says: "Receive my kingdom, for you are serving me."

***Prayer as We Depart:**

We go forth in the confidence and faith that Christ goes with us. He empowers us to walk in the light of his glory. O Lord, keep us watchful and on alert as we seek to be faithful until his coming again.

***Benediction**

Choral response: "Go Now in Peace"

Organ Postlude: "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"
arr. A.C. Whitworth