

Community Presbyterian Church

First Sunday of Advent
29 November 2026

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

***Call to Worship**
(One) A shoot shall come forth from Jesse's stump,
(All) And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him.
(One) He will judge the poor with righteousness, and the meek with equity; He will be clothed with righteousness and faithfulness.
(All) The wolf and the lamb will live peacefully together, the leopard and the kid will lie down side by side.
(One) The cow and the bear will graze together; the lion will eat straw like the ox and a little child will lead them.
(All) They will neither hurt nor destroy on God's holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of God, as the waters fill the sea.
(One) Come, let us worship the God who makes all things new and who dwells with us today.

Opening Prayer

***Hymn (154)** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*
(1) O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!

First Candle of Advent: Hope

(One) Watch and wait for Christ's coming!
(All) We light the candle of hope in anticipation of Christ's return. Trusting in God, we wait.

Light of the Hope Candle

(One) God of hope, out of death you bring life. Renew our hope, as we wait for Christ's advent among us and in us.
(All) God of hope, into our darkness come.

***Hymn (G-105)** *People Look East*

(1) People, look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the guest, is on the way.

(2) Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the rose, is on the way.

(3) Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
Guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the bird, is on the way.

(4) Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the star, is on the way.

(5) Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.
People look east and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Responsive Psalm *Psalm 80:1-7*

(One) Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!
(All) You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.
(One) Stir up your might, and come to save us!
(All) Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
(One) O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?
(All) You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.
(One) You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.
(All) Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Prayer of Confession

(All) Lord God, we praise you for sending light into this world. We confess that we live as though the light had never defeated darkness. We confess that we ignore the Savior you sent to be among us and to live in us. We've kept the birth of your Son confined to a season. Forgive us for not opening our eyes to Jesus. Prepare us for His return. Help us rejoice in the light so that your grace can illuminate the darkened places of our hearts. Assure us of our pardon that we may find rest in you. Amen.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

PROCLAMATION

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 64:1-9*
New Testament Reading *1 Corinthians 1:3-9*
Gospel Reading *Mark 13:24-37*

Sermon

***Hymn (G-82)** *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

(1) 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.

(2) 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.

RESPONSE

***Affirmation of Faith** *The Apostles Creed*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. **I believe** in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. **I believe** in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Offertory

***Doxology & Prayer of Dedication**

Passing of the Peace

Prayers of the People
(One) In Your mercy ...
(All) ... Hear our prayers.
The Lord's Prayer (sins/trespass)

SENDING

Charge
Benediction
Postlude *Wait for the Lord*

Community Presbyterian Church
Pastor: Rev. Jason Brian Santos, Ph.D. (206) 962-9886
Pianist/Worship Leader: Amy Humphreys

SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence--
64:2

as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil-- to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
64:3
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.
64:4
From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.
64:5
You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.
64:6
We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
64:7
There is no one who calls on your name or attempts to take hold of you, for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
64:8
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.
64:9
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
1:4
I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus,
1:5
for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind
1:6
just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you
1:7
so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.
1:8
He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
1:9
God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Mark 13:24-37
"But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light,
13:25
and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
13:26
"Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory.
13:27
Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
13:28
"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near.
13:29
So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates.
13:30

Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place.
13:31
Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.
13:32
"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father.
13:33
Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come.
13:34
It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch.
13:35
Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn,
13:36
or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly.
13:37
And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."