

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ROCHESTER
ROCHESTER, WISCONSIN
December 1, 2024
First Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE **MEDITATION*** **CHURCH BELL**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Ruth Frost, Moderator
LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE: The Mingus Family
INTROIT: Choir

***OPENING HYMN:** #89 "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:** (responsive)

Leader: Come let us sing unto the Lord.

All: Let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation. Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving and make ourselves glad with Him in psalms, for the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods. In His hands are the corners of the earth and the strength of the hills is His also. We are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hands. Let the whole earth stand in awe of Him because He cometh, He cometh to judge the world and the peoples with His truth.

***THE GLORIA PATRI:** #558

***THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION:** (unison)

Oh, holy God, you keep in perfect peace those whose minds are fixed on you, for in returning and rest we will be saved, and in quietness and trust will be our strength. Give us grace to live in your armor of light as in this season we remember that Jesus, in perfect humility, put on a body like our own and He intends that we, like Him, shed that same physical body to rise again with Him in glory. Amen

HYMN OF PREPARATION: #90 "Rejoice, Rejoice Believers"
(New song – will precede with a run-through)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 130:1-7

SERMON: "Holy Waiting" JoAnne Potter

SPECIAL MUSIC: Choir

SHARING OUR LIVES TOGETHER:

 Thanksgivings
 Concerns of the Community

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Silent Prayer
Prayers of Adoration
Confession
Thanksgiving
Supplication
The Lord's Prayer (debts)

SHARING OUR GIFTS:

Call to Giving (offering trays will not be passed)
Doxology

***CLOSING HYMN:** #92 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

***BENEDICTION**

Now may we all walk with Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or imagine, according to the power at work within us. To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

POSTLUDE:

*** Denotes that all who are able should stand**

LOOKING AHEAD AT OUR DECEMBER CALENDAR:

Today, December 1st - Worship is at 10:00 am. **First Sunday of Advent.** Joanne Potter will be in the pulpit. The choir will be singing.

Friday, December 6th - **Community Christmas Tree Lighting is at 6:30 pm. At 7:00 pm. The Madrigal singers from Waterford Union High School will once again perform the dress rehearsal of Holiday. Light refreshments follow.**

Sunday, December 8th - Worship Hour at 10:00 am. **Second Sunday of Advent.** Rae Ellen Preuss will be our Guest Speaker. Special music TBD.

Sunday, December 15th - Worship Hour at 10:00 am. **Third Sunday of Advent. Communion Sunday.** Rev. Dr. Barry Szymanski will be our Guest Speaker. Special Music by our Choir.

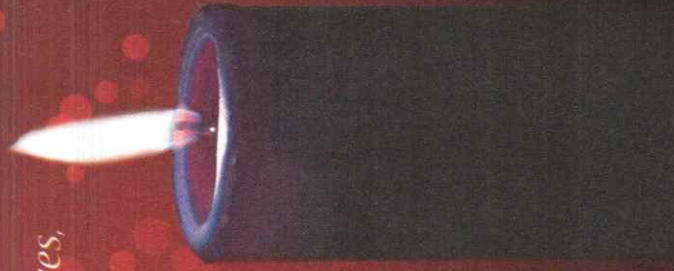
Prayer Concerns:

Lori Haley, hospice
Aubrey Koeper, cancer
Daniel Hays
Torin, autism
Elizabeth Joseph
Morgan Haley
Viveca Persson, Agneta's sister
Rigmor Alexander, Agneta's sister
Tom Eckert, lung cancer
Joshua Myer, cancer
Morton Zimmerman
Agneta Ray and family for peace and comfort.

Cindy Ovokaitys
Oscar, Brain tumor
Rev. Stu Merkel
The lost and wandering souls
Peace and Good Will on Earth
Those dealing with loss and grief
God's Providence for Israel and the Middle East

Hope

*See the shepherds lift their eyes,
see them dancing on the hills
with hearts on fire,
as our world
is filled with hope.
Christ is born.*



*I will look unto the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation:
my God will hear me. Micah 7:7*