RIVERBEND UNITED CHURCH
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December 2, 2018

First Sunday in Advent

We Gather Together

Prelude — Andrew Sims

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Candle Lighting Litany — *The Candle of HOPE*

Sung Response (Congregation):

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and end this gloom of night.
Bring hope to the world, bring peace to the earth,
And fill us with love's pure light.

Litany (Please read the bold print):

In this season of Advent, we long for God's presence.
Christ is our light and the source of our hope.
In this season of Advent, we search for God's truth.
Christ is our light and the source of our hope.
In this season of Advent, we seek God's guidance.
Christ is our light and the source of our hope.
In this season of Advent, we remember God's promise.
Christ is our light and the source of our hope.

A Reading (Choir member) — The Candle of Hope

Sung Response (Congregation) *(Please see above)*

Opening Prayer (in Unison)

Come child of Hope. Come and be born in our hearts.
Come and be born in this world. Come, child of Hope.
Come and be born!

*Opening Hymn — *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* — **VU 2**

Children are invited to go downstairs after this hymn for the Christmas Pageant Rehearsal. There is a spot for all children ages 3-12!

We Listen for the Ongoing Word of God

Readings: — Psalm 25 — **VU 752**
Luke 21: 25-36

Anthem — *The Advent Rose* - Irish Folk Song
arr. by J. M. Martin

Reflection — "Are We Ready?" — Rev. Valerie Oden

*Hymn of Response — *Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming* — **VU 8**

We Share our Prayers, our Gifts and our Lives

Sharing our Prayers — Dr. Joanne Olson, Parish Nurse/Care Coordinator

Prayer Hymn — *O Come, O Come Emmanuel vs 1* — **VU 1**

Prayer of the People / The Lord's Prayer (VU 921)

Offering Our Gifts

*Hymn of Offering Dedication — *In the Bleak Midwinter* vs. 4 — **VU 55**

*Offering Prayer

*Parting Hymn — *All the Earth is Waiting* — **VU 5**

*Benediction

Come, child of Hope.
We await your birth with eagerness.
Come, child of hope.
Send us into this day refreshed and ready to welcome you!

*Response — *Hope is a Star vs. 1* — **VU 7**

**denotes you are invited to stand as you are able and inclined*
VU *refers to the red hard-bound hymnal called Voices United*

We now have a permanent new T-Coil Hearing Loop System.

Thank you to all who have donated toward it and we welcome further contributions toward the $6000 cost. Please see an AV Tech at the back if you need help or if you need a device for those without a-T-Coil

Welcome!

If you are new with us, we're glad you're here and we would love to meet you. Please also feel free to fill out a contact card if you would like to receive our weekly email updates.

We invite you to join us for a ***Newcomers' Lunch on December 9th*** *after worship. Please let Valerie know if you can attend.*

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Upcoming Events

Community Christmas Carol Sing	Sat., Dec. 15	4:00 pm
Children's Christmas Pageant	Sun. Dec. 16	10:30 am
Christmas Healing Service	Wed. Dec. 19	7:00 pm
Christmas Choir Cantata	Sun. Dec. 23	10:30 am

Christmas Eve Services

5:00 pm Candlelight Service with Choir
7:00 pm Candlelight Service with Choir & Handbells
9:00 pm Candlelight Service with Communion

Staff Ministry Team

Valerie Oden, Lead Minister
Tom Sawyer, Minister Emeritus
Joanne Olson, Health & Care Ministry
Paula Roberts, Music Director
Andrew Sims, Accompanist
Lois Samis Lund, Handbell Choir Director
Joel Fleck, Youth Co-Coordinator
Alex Rasmussen, Youth Co-Coordinator
Emily Severson, Children's Ministry
Jacqueline Hunt, Office Manager

Ministry of the Community

Matthew Schoenhardt, Chair
Christine Ens, Past Chair
Tom LaPointe, Treasurer
David Galbraith, Property & AV
Jim Schetzsle, Property
Ray Hawrelak & Jesse Lim, AV
Carolyn Miller, Worship Slides
Peggy Robinson, Communion
Stephen & Fiona Bamforth, Communion
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