

FIRST SUNDAY OF
Advent 

DECEMBER 3, 2023

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Preservice

Georgia Arends

(Please sign the friendship pad located in the pew. This helps us to have a record of your presence.)

Words of Welcome

Rev. Terri Wetherell

Prelude

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

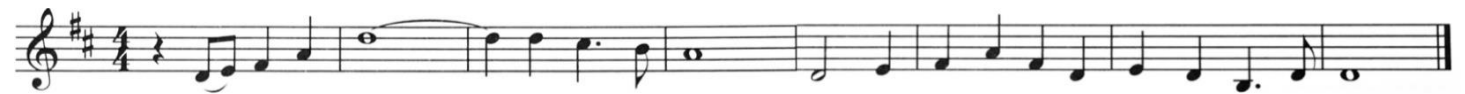
Hal H. Hopson

Introit

Advent Candle Lighting Song

Of the Father's Love

Joel Raney



Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el, ev - er - more and ev - er - more, Em - man - u - el.

Call to Worship: Advent Candle of Hope

The Nelson Family

During Advent, we wait for the one promised in scripture.

And he will be called wonderful counselor.

We wait for the one who will bring answers to a world filled with questions.

And he will be called wonderful counselor.

We wait for the one who can heal what has been wounded and mend what has been broken.

And he will be called wonderful counselor.

We wait for the one who can renew our weary spirits and ignite our hearts with hope.

And he will be called wonderful counselor.

Today we light the first candle, the candle of hope, reminding us that Jesus was sent, not only to be our Savior, but also to be our wonderful counselor, the one who hears our prayers with compassion, and who offers guidance when we seek it. As we begin the season of Advent, we remember that our rest can be found in God, and through the gift of God's son, our hope is forever restored.

*Hymn of Praise #83

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

STUTTGART

Prayer of Confession:

Gracious God, we thank you for your promises, and for sending Jesus to earth as our wonderful counselor. As we begin our advent journey, help us to know the abiding hope that comes from knowing that you will keep your promises to us. Forgive us when we get discouraged, when we lose hope, and we forget to turn to you in times of trouble. Fill us with the glorious hope of being mindful of your presence in everything we say and do. We pray this, in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Forgiveness

Although Advent is a time of waiting and preparing, one thing we don't have to wait for is God's forgiveness, which is already poured out for us before we even ask. In the name of Jesus and through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are drenched in God's forgiveness.

Thanks be to God!

*Gathered in God's Name

Michael Burkhardt

(Congregation join in on refrain)

Gathered from near and far, gathered in this holy place, gathered as strangers and friends, gathered and gifted by grace. Gathered in God's name, 'round the living Word. Gathered as one family in the name of love, in the name of love, in the name of love.

HEAR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

God of grace, we are here to worship you, to wait for your plan to unfold, and to watch for your prompting in our hearts and lives. Use this scripture reading and the proclamation of your word to speak to us, encourage us, and convict us. Amen.

Hebrew Scripture God is the potter, and we are the clay, the work of God's hands Isaiah 64:1-9
(OT pgs. 694-695)

Anthem Keep Your Lamps Andre Thomas

Children's Time RoxAnn Stalvey

Gospel Lesson Keep awake, stay alert! Christ returns unexpectedly Mark 13:24-37
(NT pgs. 50-51)

Sermon THE HOPE OF GOD'S PRESENCE Rev. Tricia Petraven

RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

* Hymn of Reflection # 104 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

Offertory Prepare the Way, O Zion arr. Hugh Knight

Doxology #606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow OLD HUNDREDTH
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Advent Communion Adapted from liturgy by **Alydia Smith**
As we come to this table, we are reminded that this is the table of Jesus Christ, a banquet prepared for everyone. All who seek to be nourished and sustained in the journey of faith, all who seek wholeness and compassionate paths to peace and justice, are welcome here.

*God be with you. **And also with you.***

*Lift up your hearts. **We lift our hearts to God.***

*Let us give thanks to God. **It is good to give God thanks and praise.***

Please join me in our communion prayer.

Gracious God, breath of peace, source of love, we pray for your Spirit.

Make us, while many, one. Make us, though broken, whole.

Make us, despite death, alive. And so we pray, Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Prayer after Communion

**We thank you, God, for breaking into our world
and pouring into our lives and our experiences.**

**We thank you, God, for this meal of thanksgiving
and the stories of love, grace, and hope that it tells. Amen.**

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn of Sending #105 People, Look East BESANÇON

*Benediction

*Response

*Postlude Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying arr. Johann Gotfried Walther

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<p>Sun, Dec 3</p> <p>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</p> <p>9:00am Sunday School</p> <p>9:45am Cherub Choir</p> <p>Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>10:15am Worship</p> <p>11:15am Advent Wreath Making and Lunch</p> <p>5:00pm Blue Christmas Service at Charleston Atlantic Presbytery</p>	<p>Wed, Dec 6</p> <p>HALOS Gifts Due Today</p> <p>5:00pm Elementary Choir</p> <p>Youth Choir</p> <p>6:15pm Adult Handbells</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>
<p>Mon, Dec 4</p> <p>10:30am Women's Bible Study</p> <p>6:30pm First Monday Circle</p> <p>6:30pm Higher Way Wellness</p>	<p>Thur, Dec 7</p> <p>10:00am First Thursday Circle</p> <p>5:30pm Personnel Committee</p>
<p>Tue, Dec 5</p> <p>9:30am Congregational Care Committee</p> <p>5:30pm Mission & Outreach Committee</p>	<p>Sat, Dec 9</p> <p>8:00am Men's Bible Study</p> <p>JIPC day @JIO</p>
	<p>Sun, Dec 10</p> <p>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</p> <p>Jl Student Gifts are Due Today</p> <p>9:00am Sunday School</p> <p>9:45am Cherub Choir</p> <p>Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>10:15am Worship</p> <p>11:15am Advent Share the Joy and Lunch</p> <p>5:00pm HS Christmas Party</p> <p>5:15pm MS Christmas Party</p>

NURTURE

UPCOMING CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAMS:

- We have Four Christmas Parties planned for all children and youth K5- 3rd, 4th & 5th, 6th-8th, and 9th-12th grades! Use the link in the Monday C&Y Enews to RSVP or email Allison, ahubbard@jamesislandpc.org for more information.

ADVENT PROGRAMMING:

- Wreath Making and Lunch, today following worship. Join us for lunch and the creation of a beautiful Advent Wreath that will help your family focus on the light of Christ this Advent Season. Each Wreath Making Kit is \$5
- Share the Joy and Lunch, December 10, following worship. All ages are invited for delicious lunch to be followed by a gift making program! We will Share the Joy through handmade gifts for loved ones and a few of our mission partners.
- Scan the QR code to sign up for meals and reserve your wreath making kit.



THE GIVING TREES Update Thank you to everyone who has taken a tag off the Giving Tree! There are just a few tags remaining – hurry over and grab one! HALOS gifts are due Wednesday, December 6 and they should be labeled with their tag or number and unwrapped. The JI Student gifts are due next Sunday, December 10 and they should be wrapped and labeled with their tag and number. If you have any questions, please contact Allison Hubbard or Claire Steed.

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO HONOR A LOVED ONE'S IMPACT ON YOUR LIFE? The Flower Guild encourages you to commission flowers for worship which they are happy to beautifully arrange. Arranged flowers can be for any occasion and then taken home following worship. The cost is \$60. Simply scan the QR code to reserve a Sunday.



MISSION

THE CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEE is looking for people who are willing to help drive our seniors to appointments. You must be available during the day and willing to run errands, shop or go to the library. How wonderful it is to provide such services to folks who can't drive and/or struggle with mobility issues. Please contact Cheryl Tracey at cherylstepkatracey@gmail.com or Jane Crawford at jcrawford264@gmail.com, if interested.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED at James Island Outreach. 1st Saturday each month for car line food distribution, from 8am- 11:30am (set-up and breakdown) or just come for an hour to help. Email Jill Jenkins, jenkijm@yahoo.com with questions or to sign up to be on the team. Thanks to everyone who helped yesterday.

JAMES ISLAND OUTREACH urgently needs our donations of canned goods, especially canned pasta. You can deliver it directly to JIO or leave it here at the church and we will deliver it. Thank you!
 Donated – 287 Goal – 400

WORSHIP

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED If you can help with our nursery care and are a parent or a member, please scan the QR code to sign up. Thanks for helping our children!



NURSERY is available for children 3 & under and is in the gym building. Care is available for children, 1st grade and below, after Children’s Time. Children will be escorted for supervised care for the remainder of worship.

JIPC STAFF

Rev. Tricia Petraven, Interim Sr. Pastor
 Rev. Terri Wetherell, Interim Assoc. Pastor
 Barbara Manaker, Director of Music
 Hugh Knight, Organist & Handbell Director
 Allison Hubbard, Dir. of Children & Youth Ministry
 Elizabeth Parler, Administrator
 Meredith Knight, Administrative Assistant
 Ricky Willis, Sexton
 Dan O'Brien, Sexton/Maintenance
 Taylor Hill-Keathley, Technical Support

Weekly Stewardship

Amount Received as of 11-26 \$760,362
 Amount Budgeted as of 11-26 \$793,639
 Worship Attendance: 120 Online Views: 90

Stewardship 2024

Pledges received to date: 111 members/families
 Amount pledged for 2024, to date: \$546,827

Fill out your pledge card for 2024 online at
www.jamesislandpc.org/make-a-pledge/

JIPC worship services are live streamed and published on the website and church social media.

We offer special thanks for those helping to lead worship today:

Pastor

Reverend Tricia Petraven

Liturgist

Reverend Terri Wetherell

Organist

Hugh Knight

Preservice

Georgia Arends

Deacon of the Week

Kari Messer

Gospel Reader

Julianne Stokes

Children’s Time

RoxAnn Stalvey



it is time to order

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

ORDER BY DEC. 17



\$15 DONATION

Call the church office at 843-795-3111 or email office@jamesislandpc.org

the giving tree

spread love through generosity!



halos gifts

- Up to \$50/gift
- Gifts for children in kinship care in the tri-county area.
- Due Dec. 6 (deadline extended)



ji student gifts

- \$25/gift
- Gifts for local elementary students
- Due Dec. 10



ji outreach turkeys

- \$20/turkey
- \$40/full holiday meal
- Due Dec. 10



Contact: Allison Hubbard, ahubbard@jamesislandpc.org