



Dawn WILL  
break  
UPON US

  
*Advent*  
AT BETHANY PRES

# CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

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## **Prelude**

*Sylvia Oines*

## **Welcome**

*Senior Pastor, Doug Kelly*

*Leader:* The Lord be with you!

*People:* **And also with you!**

## **Silent Listening to God**

*Director of Formation and Outreach Ministries, Marisa Gronholz*

## **Lighting of the Advent Candle**

*Jordon Conner, Steven Westburg, and Timothy Chang*

*Leader:* Let us join together in our Advent liturgy. We light the PEACE candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

*All:* **Prepare the Way of the Lord!**

*Leader:* The prophet Isaiah announces the peace that accompanies the Christ's coming: The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. [Isaiah 11:6-9]

*All:* **Jesus, awaken us to Your presence. Dawn upon our lives and rule in our world.**

## **\*Hymn** *Light Dawns on a Weary World* #79

*Sylvia Oines*

Light dawns on a weary world  
When eyes begin to see all people's dignity  
Light dawns on a weary world  
The promised day of justice comes  
*The trees clap their hands*  
*The drylands, gush with springs*  
*The hills and mountains shall break forth with singing*  
*We shall go out in joy*  
*And be led in peace*  
*As all the world in wonder echoes shalom*  
Love grows on a weary world  
When hungry hearts find bread  
And children's dreams are fed  
Love grows on a weary world  
The promised feast of plenty comes (*Chorus*)  
Hope blooms on a weary world  
When creatures, once forlorn  
Find wilderness reborn  
Hope blooms on a weary world  
The promised green of Eden comes (*Chorus*)

## **Scripture Reading** Acts 16:16-40

*Marisa Gronholz*

<sup>16</sup>One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup>While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." <sup>18</sup>She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

<sup>19</sup> But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. <sup>20</sup> When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews <sup>21</sup> and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." <sup>22</sup> The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. <sup>23</sup> After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. <sup>24</sup> Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

<sup>25</sup> About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. <sup>27</sup> When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup> But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." <sup>29</sup> The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" <sup>31</sup> They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." <sup>32</sup> They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. <sup>33</sup> At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. <sup>34</sup> He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

<sup>35</sup> When morning came, the magistrates sent the police, saying, "Let those men go." <sup>36</sup> And the jailer reported the message to Paul, saying, "The magistrates sent word to let you go; therefore come out now and go in peace." <sup>37</sup> But Paul replied, "They have beaten us in public, uncondemned, men who are Roman citizens, and have thrown us into prison; and now are they going to discharge us in secret? Certainly not! Let them come and take us out themselves." <sup>38</sup> The police reported these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Roman citizens; <sup>39</sup> so they came and apologized to them. And they took them out and asked them to leave the city. <sup>40</sup> After leaving the prison they went to Lydia's home; and when they had seen and encouraged the brothers and sisters there, they departed.

### **Prayer of Confession and Declaration of Forgiveness**

**\*Responding to God's Great Love** >>[Click here to give online](#)

*Leader:* You have given all to me

*People:* **To you, Lord, I return it**

*Leader:* Everything is Yours

*People:* **Do with it what You will**

*Leader:* Give me only Your love and Your grace

*People:* **That is enough for me**

**Song** *Wait For The Lord*

*Choir*

Wait for the Lord. Whose day is near

Wait for the Lord. Be strong, take heart

O come, o come Immanuel and ransom captive Israel

Our Savior is coming, wait

Our new day is breaking, wait

Wait for the Lord. Be strong, take heart

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*Ushers*

**Children's Time**

Lisa Dunn

**Sermon** *Bearing Witness to Who and Whose We Are*

Dominique Gilliard

**Our Prayers to God** [>>>Click here for the Virtual Prayer Wall](#)

Doug Kelly

**\*Hymn** *While We Are Waiting, Come* #92

Choir

While we are waiting, come  
While we are waiting, come  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel  
While we are waiting, come  
With power and glory, come  
With power and glory, come  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel  
While we are waiting, come  
Come, Savior, quickly, come  
Come, Savior, quickly, come  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel  
While we are waiting, come

**Benediction**

Dominique Gilliard

**Closing Song** *Go Now In Peace*

Choir

Go now in peace, go now in peace; may the love of God surround you  
Everywhere, everywhere you may go *(Repeat)*

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**Postlude**

Sylvia Oines

**Preaching Today** Dominique Gilliard

**Leading Worship** Marisa Gronholz

**Ministers** You, who are touched by God's grace, being healed by God's love

**Date** December 5, 2021 - Second Sunday of Advent

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