



**November 29, 2020**

**Welcome**

*Leader:* The Lord be with you. *People:* And also with you.

*Senior Pastor, Doug Kelly*

**News From The Front** Wednesday Night Dinner

*Director of WND, Barb Williams*

**Light the Hope Candle throughout Seattle and the World**

*Tyler, Krista & Alec Cronk*

We come before you, God, in hope  
and in need of your hope  
that lights up our darkness  
like the smile of a perfect child  
in a broken world

Though sometimes it feels  
like no one cares  
like nothing we do matters  
like the nothing you made everything from  
is bleeding through, we come

We come *because* things could be better  
believing our labor is not in vain  
that others are working for our collective healing  
that there is a cure to what ails us  
God help our unbelief

We come to you, Lord, for the kind of hope  
that would be senseless without you  
a hope made glorious by troubled times  
unbounded hope for a just and fulfilling future  
at the end of our tunneled vision

We are God's people  
We light this candle  
as a sign of hope in the God  
who comes to us in our darkest hour  
and makes a home among us

O come, Immanuel

**Song** *My Soul In Stillness Waits*

*Rick & Lisa Hudson*

*For You, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits  
Truly my hope is in You*

O Lord of Light, our only hope of glory  
Your radiance shines in all who look to You  
Come light the hearts of all in dark and shadow (*Chorus*)

O Root of Life, implant Your seed within us  
And in Your advent draw us all to You  
Our hope reborn in dying and in rising (*Chorus*)

### **Silent Listening**

**Scripture** Isaiah 64:1-9

*Worship Leader, Michelle McFarland*

<sup>1</sup>O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence —  
<sup>2</sup>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!  
<sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
<sup>4</sup>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.  
<sup>5</sup>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.  
<sup>6</sup>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.  
<sup>7</sup>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.  
<sup>8</sup>Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of you hand.  
<sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

**Song** *How Long*

*Rick & Lisa Hudson*

How long will You turn Your face away  
How long do You hear us when we pray  
On and on still we walk this pilgrim way  
How long  
How long 'til Your children find their rest  
How long 'til You draw them to Your breast  
We go on holding to Your promises  
How long  
'Til You wipe away the tears from ev'ry eye  
'Til we see our home descending from the sky  
Do we wait in vain  
Jesus give us hope again  
How long 'til Your word will still the storm  
How long 'til You bare Your mighty arm  
How we groan 'til You snatch us from the thrones  
How long  
How long sweet the dawn that ends the race  
How long weak our hearts but strong our legs  
Looking on – great that cloud of witnesses  
How long

### **Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness**

**Children's Message**

*Associate Pastor of Youth and Young Adults, Danielle Merseles*

**Song** *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

*Rick & Lisa Hudson*

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray  
Cast out our sin, and enter in; be born in us today  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel

**Our Response to God's Great Love** ([click here if you would like to give your offering online](#)) Michelle McFarland

**Sermon** *Tear Open the Heavens*

Doug Kelly

**Our Prayers to God**

Danielle Merseles

**Song** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Rick & Lisa Hudson

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  
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

**Benediction**

Doug Kelly

**Closing Song** *Go Now in Peace*

Rick & Lisa Hudson

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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## TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

**Preaching today is Doug Kelly and leading worship is Michelle McFarland.** Michelle is the Associate Director of Undergraduate Admissions at SPU, where she has worked for 10 years. She and Chuck are parents to two college students (Audrey and Emmett) and a high schooler (Elsie) Their family has joined many others during this season, recently having adopted a "pandemic puppy." Bailey Love McFarland (BLM) is a 3 1/2-month-old labradoodle, who's bringing them much energy, joy, and sharp puppy-toothed playtime. (Socially distanced, backyard puppy therapy appointments available to Bethany friends.)

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