



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

¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence —
²as 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!
³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴From 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.
⁵You 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.
⁶We 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.
⁷There 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.
⁸Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of you hand.
⁹Do 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)*

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.