



Offering Jesus Christ to everyone through worship, prayer, study, mission, and fellowship.

2020 E. Washington Street, Monticello, IL 61856

November 29, 2020 8:30 am



Preparation for Worship

Advent begins with shadows of tension between hunger and hope. Christ is coming, but we won't know exactly when. We must be ready! --P. Bankson

Announcements

Focus Scripture

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Prelude

*Call to Worship

Leader: We are waiting...in the dark of the year we are waiting.

People: ***We are waiting...for the potter to shape our lives.***

Leader: We are waiting...to see clearly what lies hidden in darkness.

People: ***We are waiting, awake and alert..ready for God to come.***

Leader: In the darkness a candle is lit. The light comforts our waiting.

People: ***The light reminds us of the one who is to come.***

*Hymn

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

No. 196

1. 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.

2. 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.

Common Prayer

O God, come to us in our need. Like a shepherd, you care for us. Like a potter, you shape our lives. Faithful God, we are waiting for you. Come down to us. Come down to us as fire, and burn away the bonds that hold us back. Light our spirits with your eternal love. Shape us with your hands, that we may be vessels fit to receive your presence. We are waiting, Holy One, and place our trust in your love. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Kim and Greg Alvis

Reader One: If ever there was a year we needed Advent, this is the year. We hardly know how to describe the year we have lived through. We hesitate to reflect on all the mess around us in 2020. All we know is that nothing seems right, nothing seems like it use to be, nothing. We need Advent!

Reader Two: The prophet Isaiah cried out for us, “O that you would tear open the heavens and come down ... To make your name known ... so that nations might tremble at your presence.” So tear through the mess, O Lord, and come down to us again. We long to be your people, a people of hope.

Reader One: We light this first candle as a sign of our hope. Hope that you can meet us, even in the mess of our world. Hope that you still see us, though we feel we are lost in the rubble. Let this light be the guide that brings us to Emmanuel once more.

Reader Two: O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

Scripture

Isaiah 64:1-9

Kid's Time

Message

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Sharing of our Gifts and Lives

*Hymn

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

No. 382

1. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Thou art the potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after thy will, while I am waiting, yielded and still.
2. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Search me and try me,
Savior today! Wash me just now, Lord, wash me just now, as in thy presence humbly I bow.
3. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Wounded and weary,
help me I pray! Power, all power, surely is thine! Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!
4. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Hold o'er my being
absolute sway. Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see Christ only, always, living in me!

*Benediction

Keep alert; stay awake; be ready--Christ is among us. Amen!

*Postlude

Worship Assistants today:

Song Leader: Kathy Brown

Organist: Gloria Cardoni

Tech Support: Jamie Hannah

Sound Tech: Arthur Sievers



Our Staff:

Pastor: Kathy Bueker Sweet
Office Manager: Mary Catherine St. John
Director of Music: Kathy Brown
Director of Youth Ministries: Natalie McDowell
Director of Family Ministries: Mary Catherine St. John

†††††

Important information to know...

You may reach Rev. Kathy at 815-370-3039. Live Radio Broadcast 8:30 a.m. WCZQ 105.5 FM

Announcements:

Do you know someone who has a special need or would like a phone call? Please call the office and let us know. Caring for each other has become a bit more difficult during covid--but not impossible!

Have you tried our new APP and website? We are excited for its launch. It is a great way to receive information about what is happening in the church. It is available in the Google Play store and Apple store.

If you would like an advent kit, we have a few available still in the office for pick up during our business hours of 9-12 Monday - Thursday. If you need one delivered, please call the office and we will get one to you!

Today

8:30 am Worship - online and radio

Tuesday, December 1

8:30 am Just Walking (via Zoom)

7:00 pm Pray Time with Rev. Kathy (via Zoom)

Thursday, December 3

8:30 am Just Walking (via Zoom)

6:30 pm Hymn Sing on Facebook live

Sunday, November 29

8:30 am Worship -- online and radio