



November 29, 2020
1st Sunday of Advent

GATHERING

Heather Hinton

GREETING

Darren Cushman Wood

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Prepare the Royal Highway

arr. J. Behnke

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Out of God's deep compassion the dawn of heaven will break upon us.

People: From God's faithfulness the light of peace will shine on us.

Leader: Christ is coming to free us from our fears,
to liberate us from our sins,
and to give joy to every longing heart.

OPENING HYMN #196

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

***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.***

ADVENT CANDLES

The Strawbridge Family

Pastor: We light this candle as a sign of the coming of Christ, the Light of the World.

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock.

Stir up your might and come to save us.

Leader: May the hope of God shine in the darkness to show us the promise of deliverance.

[Refrain] O come, O come, Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel.

Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Kathleen Custer

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 64:1-4

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
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!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
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 you.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

DUET

I Waited for the Lord
from *Hymn of Praise*

F. Mendelssohn
Kate Roberts; Amy Cuomo, sopranos

I waited for the Lord, he inclined unto me, he heard my complaint.
O blest are they that hope and trust in him.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Psalm 80

Leader: Hear us, Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock.
You who sit enthroned between the cherubim, shine forth.
Awaken your might; come and save us.

**People: Restore us, O God;
make your face shine on us,
that we may be saved.**

Leader: How long, Lord God Almighty,
will your anger smolder
against the prayers of your people?
You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have made them drink tears by the bowlful.

**People: Restore us, God Almighty;
make your face shine on us,
that we may be saved.**

Leader: You transplanted a vine from Egypt;
you drove out the nations and planted it.
You cleared the ground for it,
and it took root and filled the land.
Why have you broken down its walls
so that all who pass by pick its grapes?

**People: Return to us, God Almighty!
Look down from heaven and see!**

Leader: Watch over this vine,
the root your right hand has planted,
the son you have raised up for yourself.

Then we will not turn away from you;
revive us, and we will call on your name.

**People: Restore us, Lord God Almighty;
make your face shine on us,
that we may be saved.**

HYMN OF PRAYER #454

Open My Eyes, That I May See

***Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!***

***Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!***

***Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

DOXOLOGY #94

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:57-66

Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, 'No; he is to be called

John.’ They said to her, ‘None of your relatives has this name.’ Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, ‘His name is John.’ And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, ‘What then will this child become?’ For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Naming

Darren Cushman Wood

HYMN OF DEDICATION #202

People, Look East

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.

People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.

Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.

People, look east and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Leader: May the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus
enrich you with knowledge and every spiritual gift

People: as we wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: May the Lord strengthen you to the end,
so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: God is faithful who has called into the fellowship of Jesus Christ our Lord.

POSTLUDE

People, Look East

arr. F. Ashdown

*The flowers on the altar today are given for the glory of God and
in loving memory of James (Jim) Esterline, who would have been 106 on November 28, by his family.*

This week's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood

Senior Pastor

John Hague & Dick Tiller-Luchtman

Audio Visual

Kathleen Custer

Liturgist

Heather Hinton

Organist

Kate Roberts & Amy Cuomo

Soloists

Daily Living in the COVID Era: Mental Health
is now available on the North website in Livestreaming.

4-Week Virtual Advent Studies

Sundays, 9:45-10:45am beginning Nov. 29

“Peace, Justice, Joy, and Salvation: An Advent Study”

To register, email: asell@northchurchindy.com

Tuesdays, 6:30-8pm beginning Dec. 1

“Advent: The Weary World Rejoices”

To register, email: skotian1@cts.edu

Advent Festival

Sunday, Dec. 6, 5:30pm