



TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Welcome and Prayer for the Evening**Anne Hough**

O come, o come Emmanuel,
And be a light for our darkness.
Be comfort in our grief,
A guide for our path.
Be a friend for our loneliness,
An oasis for our searching.
O come, O come Emmanuel,
Restore our joy, heal our wounds,
And bring us peace. Amen.

Prelude*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Trad. French melody

Call to Worship**Taehwan Roh**

Holy God, in the silence of this moment,
call us by name and lift our weary spirits,
Deepen our questioning faith,
And give us new eyes
To see your blessings all around us.
For you are the giver of peace,
The source of hope and joy,
And a whisper of love in the stillness.

Prayers of the People**Taehwan Roh**

God of the winter sky, place a star on our horizon,
For we need your light to guide us.
God of the winter sky, place a star on our horizon,
For our world needs the assurance of your presence.
Shine gently on families who grieve the loss of loved ones.
Shine brightly on all who struggle for bread to eat,
Land to till, work to do.
Shine with abiding presence on all who need comfort and healing.
God of the winter sky,
Let your light and warmth fill us here,
That others will be warmed by your love through us,
To bring hope and peace to all. Amen

Musical Response*Alleluia***Words of hope from the prophet Isaiah****Catherine Wethington**

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;

his understanding is unsearchable.
 He gives power to the faint,
 and strengthens the powerless.
 Even youths will faint and be weary,
 and the young will fall exhausted;
 but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
 they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
 they shall run and not be weary,
 they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 40: 28-31

Musical Response

Alleluia

More words of hope from Isaiah

Catherine Wethington

Do not fear, for I am with you,
 do not be afraid, for I am your God;
 I will strengthen you, I will help you,
 I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

Isaiah 41:10

But now thus says the Lord,
 he who created you, O Jacob,
 he who formed you, O Israel:
 Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
 I have called you by name, you are mine.
 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
 and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
 when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
 and the flame shall not consume you.
 For I am the Lord your God,
 the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

Isaiah 43:1-3

Music for Meditation

Christmastime is Here

Mendelson & Guaraldi

Meditation

Great Good News

Anne Hough

Music for Reflection

Wexford Carol

Trad. Irish

Reading

Psalms 121

Taehwan Roh

I lift up my eyes to the hills—
 from where will my help come?
 My help comes from the Lord,
 who made heaven and earth.
 He will not let your foot be moved;
 he who keeps you will not slumber.

He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
The Lord will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and for evermore.

Closing Meditation

Variation of Psalm 23

Anne Hough

The Lord is my healer; I shall not hurt.
God prepares a peaceful place for me to rest.
God leads me into deep waters that refresh my soul.
God places a light upon my path.
Even though I walk through the valley of loneliness,
I will feel no pain; for you are with me.
Your people and your presence comfort me.
You give me work and meaning and I am filled with your love.
Surely peace and hope will be with me all the days of my life;
For I will live with you forever.

Blessing

Anne Hough

May the God of all hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen
Romans 15:13

Postlude

Dona Nobis Pacem

Catherine Wethington

Scripture quotations taken from The Holy Bible, New Revised Standard Version.
Prayers and Readings are from *Sourcebook of Worship Resources*, Volumes 1 & 2.

Liturgists: Anne Hough

Taehwan Roh

Catherine Wethington

Soloist: Catherine Wethington

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