DAVIDSON COLLEGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service for the Lord's Day

8:30 a.m. | First Sunday of Advent | November 29, 2026

The banner in the Sanctuary represents DCPC's international partnerships with the Sigona Presbyterian Church in Kenya and the Kilambe communities in Nicaragua. Identical banners are in their worship spaces. Learn more about our partnerships at our website or here.

Use this QR code to fill out the online friendship pad.

We are invited to make an offering in response to God's grace and love and to Jesus' call to care for one another.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude — O Come, O Come, Emmanuel — Wilbur Held

Advent Candle Lighting

One: Advent is adorned with words like "wait" and "silence," "expectation" and "listening."

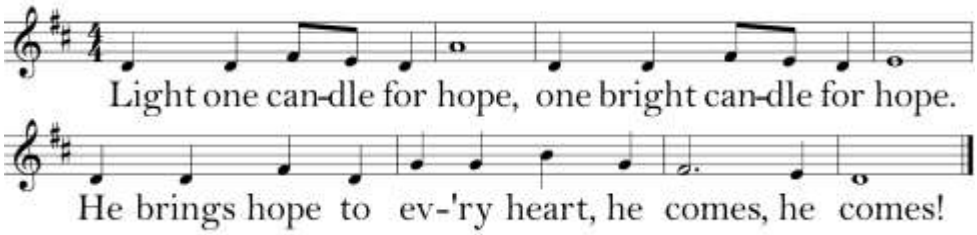
All: May God make them more than verbal decorations.

One: Advent comes into a world of instant gratification and a non-stop soundtrack, where websites know what we want and we can curate our own playlists.

All: **May God break through and slow us down, giving us what we need, not what we or algorithms think want.**

One: Advent begins now and whenever we seek Jesus, as we hope in his return and in the world he has already begun. We light this candle in that hope.

All Sing:



One: Holy One, hope can be a fragile thing. Strengthen our hope in you, that it would enable us to serve you and your son, Jesus Christ, for whom we look with longing and expectation. Amen.

* Hymn 88 — O Come, O Come, Emmanuel — VENI EMMANUEL
Verses 1, 2, 5, 7

Prayer of Confession

All: God-with-us, as we enter the holiday season, we confess that our attention is pulled in many directions. We keep busy schedules; we rush about. Captivated by technology, seduced by the lure of consumer goods, we do not remain alert to your divine presence in our lives, in the church, in the world. Make us less like the disciples, falling asleep on the job. Make us more like the magi, watching for a sign of your presence; and more like the shepherds, keeping watch over your flock. Help us to watch for you attentively this season, so we do not miss how very near to us you are. Amen.

Hymn 121, verse 3 — O Little Town of Bethlehem — ST. LOUIS

All Sing:

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!

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the season of waiting and expectation before Christmas. The liturgical (worship) color for Advent is blue.

Use this QR Code to go to a document that contains all of our current Sign-Up Links for things like worship greeting, ushering, event registrations, service events, etc.

Declaration of Love

One: The good news of the Advent season is this: our God is one who draws near to us, even and especially, in all our faults and follies. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

* Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

All: Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Time with Children

All Sing:

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Scripture Matthew 26: 36-46 and Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

After each reading

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Watchful Waiting Caitlyn Zold

Responding to the Word

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

All: 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offertory Keep Your Lamps André Thomas

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.
Children, don't get weary 'til your work is done.
Christian, journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.

Small Groups of the Week

Men's Night Fellowship

A monthly gathering for men, meets on the first Monday of each month from 7:30 – 8:30 pm at Summit Basecamp in Davidson. December 7th's gathering is WWE. It's not what you think! Contact Peter Henry or Robert Alexander for more information.

Healing Support Luncheon

Offering support, friendship and fellowship for those grieving the loss of a loved one, including family members and friends. We meet on the 4th Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. at local restaurants. Contact Marjorie Burris for more information.

* Doxology, Hymn 145 GREENSLEEVES

All Sing:

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

* Prayer of Dedication

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

* Hymn 82	Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus	HYFRYDOL
* Benediction		
* Postlude	Lift Up Your Heads, Your Mighty Gates	Wilbur Held

Today's Worship Leaders:

Preaching – Caitlyn Zold

Liturgists – Robert Alexander, Cary Anne and Joe Melton

Musicians – David Brinson, Sarah Lynch, Geneva Choir

Technology – Bill Hatfield, Ben Slay

The Bibles in our pews are the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV), originally produced in 1989 as an update to the 1952 Revised Standard Version (RSV). The pastors and readers are now using the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVue) in worship. Published in 2021, the NRSVue incorporates new manuscript discoveries, particularly for the Hebrew Bible, and the latest insights from biblical scholarship. It features clearer, more inclusive language and greater cultural sensitivity compared to prior versions, with over 12,000 substantive revisions to the original NRSV.

Davidson College Presbyterian Church

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

www.dcpc.org

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Davidson College Presbyterian Church is part of the PC(USA). As a member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, we are a welcoming, affirming, and inclusive faith community where all are one in Christ. We are a Matthew 25, Earth Care and Stephen Ministry congregation on the corner of campus and community. Our congregation celebrates partnerships in Christ with the Sigona Presbyterian Church in Kikuyu, Kenya; and the Kilambe communities in Jinotega, Nicaragua; and Blythe Elementary School in Huntersville, NC. Together we seek to grow in witnessing to Christ in a complex world and to learn more about how to respond as disciples to the great needs of the world. Our sanctuary stands on lands once occupied by the indigenous communities of the Catawba people and our first worship space was built with bricks made by enslaved people. We remember them to God as we honor and recognize them in worship.

Childcare

Childcare for ages 0-6 is available on the lower level, room 14, every Sunday during worship hours. A comfort room is available in room 13 for nursing or a break from the worship service (for adult and child) with a livestream of the worship service.

Hearing Assistance Devices

Our devices are available in baskets at each entrance to the sanctuary. Each receiver pack has one of two cords: a simple in-ear piece and a T-Coil neck loop. If you need assistance, please see a worship leader.

Pew Cushions

Pew cushions are available near each entrance for our worshipers with back issues.

Narthex Bathrooms

The bathrooms in the narthex (the entryway from the campus, at the back of the sanctuary) are all-gender bathrooms.

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