



Our mission is to equip people to grow their faith
by connecting to God and others
while reaching out with love

First Sunday of Advent
November 28, 2021

Currently we ask that everyone wear masks during worship; worship leaders will remove masks to speak and are fully vaccinated. Please note that this service is live streamed on Facebook. If you do not want to appear on the live stream, please let an usher know and you will be seated outside the range of the cameras.

Prelude Chant

Wait for the Lord

Taize

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: Keep watch, take heart!
Con - tem - pla - ré tu vi - da en mí. Con - tem - pla - ré, Se - ñor, tu a - mor.

Taize

Choir Introit.

Rorate Coeli, 17th c. French Chant

Pour down, you heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness. Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God; my salvation will not tarry: I have swept away your transgressions like a cloud: fear not, for I will save you, for I am your God, the Holy One of Israel, your redeemer. Pour down, you heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness.

Opening Hymn

O come, O come Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Em man u - el, high,
 2. O come, thou Wis dom from on ing, high,
 3. O come, O God's re veal - ing Word,
 4. O come, come, Re deem er of the slave,

and who brings your peo ple of sal ways dwell,
 Your voice the He brew pro phets nai. heard.
 the sha ckled He brews you did save.

who mourn in mor tal ex ile here
 To us in the path of day know ledge show,
 They saw that your one co day ve nant will cease,
 And then your co ve nant was sealed,

un til teach the Lord of life ap pear.
 and teach us in your ways to go.
 and all cre a tion the be at peace.
 the To rah on the mount re vealed.

Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em man u - el shall come a - gain and with us ev - er dwell.

words: Latin 9th c.; (very alt)
 music Veni, veni, Emmanuel, plainsong 15th c.

Opening Acclamation

Presider
People

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
 And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing of the Advent Wreath

Presider Praise to you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.
You sent your Son to be the light of the world
and to spread his light of love to all:
Bless us and this wreath of light made from our hands.
May its ever-increasing brightness be a sign to us
of the approaching nearness of your Son,
that we might prepare with joy
for his humble birth in a manger
and be ready to receive him
at his coming again in glory;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

Song of Praise

Gentle Joseph

women "Gen - tle Jo - seph, Jo - seph dear, stay with me, for the
men "Glad - ly Mar - y, Mar - y mine, I will cra - dle the
all "Peace to all and God's good - will," heav'n and earth with this

ba - by's near; God will sure - ly your good - ness hear, as
child di - vine; Here will heav - en and earth com - bine, for
song will fill; Soon will God, in the eve - ning still, be

(FINE) Bm G

you will love this new - born child," says Mar - y.
you will bear God's child, O dear - est Mar - y."
born in Beth - le - hem, the child of Mar - y.

Joseph lieber, Joseph mein, arr. Charles Rus

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Presider May God be with you.
People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

The Ministry of the Word

First Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1-9

Tim Story
arr.
Charles
Rus

Come, O come Em - man - u - el, with your cap - tive chil - dren dwell.
Let all our sad di - vi - sions cease: Here on earth, heaven - ly peace.

1. To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; * let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
2. **Let none who look to you be put to shame; * let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**
3. Show me your ways, O Lord, * and teach me your paths.
4. **Lead me in your truth and teach me, * for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.**
5. Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, * for they are from everlasting.
6. **Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; * remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**
7. Gracious and upright is the Lord; * therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
8. **He guides the humble in doing right * and teaches his way to the lowly.**
9. All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness * to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Tim Story
arr.
Charles
Rus

Come, O come Em - man - u - el, with your cap - tive chil - dren dwell.
Let all our sad di - vi - sions cease: Here on earth, heaven - ly peace.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.
People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Alleluia Ave Maria

All repeat each line after the cantor.



Prepare a way within, make your heart ready;
the glory of God will be revealed to all people
together!

11th c. French chant arr. Charles Rus

The Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon The Rev. Liz Tichenor

You are invited to join in a time of silence and reflection following the homily.

Please remain seated during the singing of this hymn.

Hymn

Hope is a light

The musical score is written on three systems of a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The first system has two parts: 'Leader' and 'All'. The 'Leader' part has two verses: '1. Hope is a light,' and '2. Peace is a prayer,'. The 'All' part has two verses: 'hope is a light.' and 'peace is a prayer.' The second system also has 'Leader' and 'All' parts. The 'Leader' part has two verses: 'Hope is a light to show the way,' and 'Peace is a prayer that starts with me,'. The 'All' part has two verses: 'hope is a light to show the way.' and 'peace is a prayer that starts with me.' The third system also has 'Leader' and 'All' parts. The 'Leader' part has two verses: 'Light the can - dle of hope,' and 'Light the can - dle of peace,'. The 'All' part has two verses: 'light the can - dle of hope.' and 'light the can - dle of peace.'

Leader *All*

1. Hope is a light, hope is a light.
2. Peace is a prayer, peace is a prayer.

Leader *All*

Hope is a light to show the way, hope is a light to show the way.
Peace is a prayer that starts with me, peace is a prayer that starts with me.

Leader *All*

Light the can - dle of hope, light the can - dle of hope.
Light the can - dle of peace, light the can - dle of peace.

Affirmation of Faith *The Nicene Creed* standing

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People *standing*

Leader Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all:

People



Leader We pray for humility. Help your body, your church, and all its members to humbly receive the gift of eyes to see and ears to hear the revelation that truly transforms our hearts.

People **Hear us, God of great compassion**

Leader We pray for guidance. May all who lead, all who govern, and all who participate in communion with others be unafraid to hear the voices crying out from the wilderness and follow their calls to end injustice and oppression.

People **Hear us, God of great compassion**

Leader We pray for strength, courage, and might. Help us to join you in our willingness to endure hardship for the sake of others. Help us to be filled with compassion in order to help you fill others.

People **Hear us, God of great compassion**

Leader We pray for presence. Through your grace and truth may we all be invited into being seen by one another, and in that seeing to receive the gift of presence not withheld. We pray for our community, especially Richard; Leo and Sonia; Jennifer; Lori; Dean, Carrie, Vivian and Genevieve, members of our parish family.

People **Hear us, God of great compassion**

Leader We pray for peace. Bless us with the willingness to be not afraid as our securities are shattered, our lives are transformed, and our hearts are expanded to meet the needs of an ever-changing world. Grant us the peace to bring comfort to each other and all who suffer, especially those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, heal the sick, mend the broken, protect the vulnerable, shelter the refugee, strengthen the weary, rescue the lost, and give courage to all who struggle.

People **Hear us, God of great compassion**

Leader We pray for resurrection. Grant us the serenity to bring our awareness to you amidst loss, knowing that the souls of the departed rest in your eternal love. We pray for all who died, especially Liz Coleman, Mariah Coleman, Lauren White and those we now name _____. We pray for those they have left behind, and all who wait to join you in eternal resurrection.

People **Hear us, God of great compassion**

Confession

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

All Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider May the peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements

Thanksgivings and Concerns

The Hands of God

The musical score for 'The Hands of God' is written on three staves in 3/4 time. The melody is simple and uses a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first staff begins with a whole rest, followed by a series of quarter and eighth notes. The second staff continues the melody with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The third staff concludes the piece with a final double bar line.

To - day, to - mor-row and al - ways we re - jice in the hands_ of God. May God's
pow - er-ful hands sup - port you, May God's guid - ing hands lead you, May God's
lov - ing hands en - fold you. We re - jice in the hands_ of God.

The Offertory

Presider Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. — *Ephesians 5:2*

Please stand to sing

Offertory Hymn 65

Prepare the way, O Zion

1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.

Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.

Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.

Refrain
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

For those gathered in person, if you wish to make a gift you can do so when an usher brings the offering plate to you. If you would like to make a gift online, you can securely do so through [PayPal here](#). You can also mail checks to the church at 399 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill CA, 94523. Thank you!

The Great Thanksgiving

standing

Presider All things come of you O God.
People And of your own have we given you.

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Presider God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.



Glo - ry to you for ev - er and ev - er.

Presider At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.



By your will they were cre - a - ted and have their be - ing.

Presider From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.



Have mer - cy, Lord, for we are sin - ners in your sight.

Presider Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.



By his blood, he re - con - ciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

Presider And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer, God of might:____
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your Name, for us to greet;____



all that is pro - claims your Name;____ glo - ry to your ho - ly reign.
sing ho - san - na to our King,____ and pre - pare for him to meet.

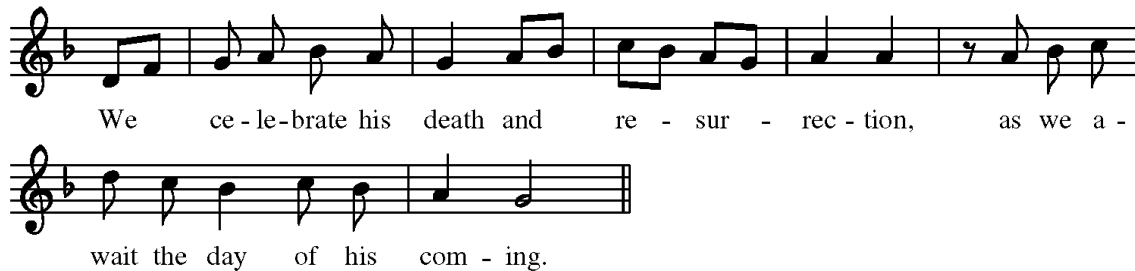
Presider

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,



Presider

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.



Presider

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.



Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

Our Fa - ther in heaven,
hall - owed be your Name. Your king - dom come. Your will be done on
earth as in heaven. Give us this day our dai - ly bread. For -
give us our sins as we for - give
those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of
trial, and de - liv - er us from ev - il. For the
king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

Rimsky Korsakov

The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread

A period of silence is kept.

If ___ in your heart you make a man-ger for his birth, ___

___ then God will once a - gain be - come a child on earth. ___ If ___

in your heart you make a man-ger for his birth, ___ then God will once a -

gain be - come a child on earth. ___ If ___ earth. ___

words: Angelus Silesius; music: Ana Hernandez

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Communion of the People

All are invited to receive Communion. Please gather around the altar, giving those on either side of you some space. Place one hand on top of the other to receive the bread. We will not be sharing wine or grape juice today. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, just ask.

Gluten free wafers are available; please ask if that's your preference.

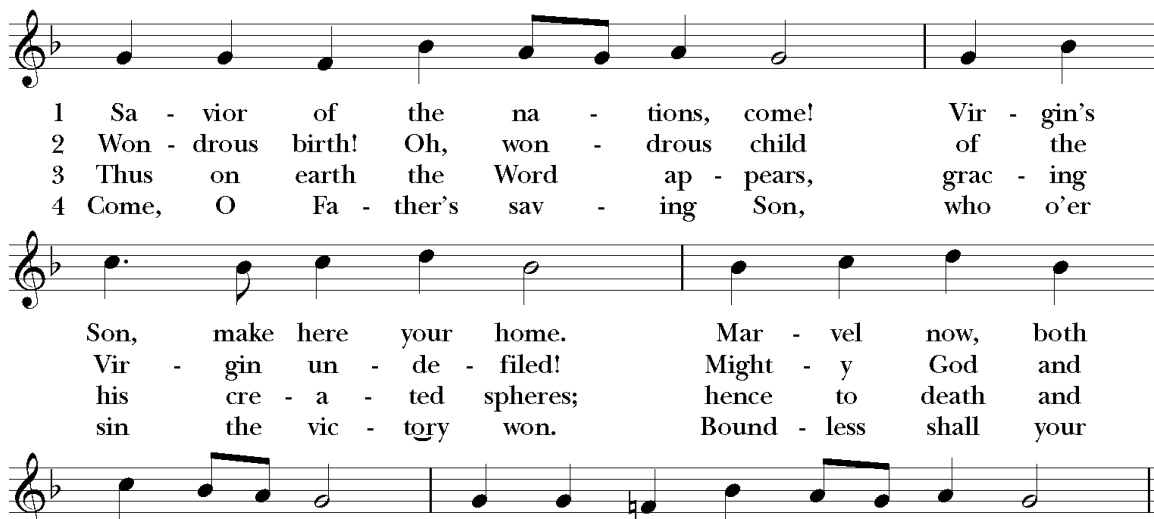
If you are worshipping via livestream, you may wish to pray this prayer during communion:

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people who long to gather at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist has been celebrated, and, we pray, will be celebrated again soon, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Communion Hymn 54

Savior of the nations, come!



1 Sa - vior of the na - tions, come! Vir - gin's
2 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child of the
3 Thus on earth the Word ap - pears, grac - ing
4 Come, O Fa - ther's sav - ing Son, who o'er

Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, both
Vir - gin un - de - filed! Might - y God and
his cre - a - ted spheres; hence to death and
sin the vic - tory won. Bound - less shall your

heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.
Ma - ry's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
hell de - scends, then the heaven - ly throne a - scends.
king - dom be; grant that we its glo - ries see.

Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546) after Ambrose of Milan (340-397); tr. William M. Reynolds (1812-1876) and James Waring McCrady (b. 1938)
Music: *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*, melody from *Erfurt Enchiridia*, 1524; harm. Melchior Vulpius (1560?-1616)

Prayer after Communion

standing

Presider Let us pray.

***People* Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Blessing

Presider Life is short and we do not have much time
to gladden the hearts of those
who make the journey with us.
So be swift to love,
and make haste to be kind;
and the blessing of God, who made us,
who loves us, and who travels with us
be with you now and forever.
Amen.

Closing Hymn 57

Lo! He comes with clouds descending

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: *Helmsley*, melody Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt.

The Dismissal

Presider Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.



First Sunday of Advent

Prayer List

Lynn F.	Jake & family
L. White's Family	Karen
Coleman Family	Mary Lou
Patty S.	Kenny
Jennifer D.	Len
Jeanette	Peggy
Jacki M.	Pauline
Rachel E.	Eloise
Valerie F	Katherine
Neil	Violaine
Lian	Jennifer
John	Pam
Carol Ann	Mary Pat
Pat A.	Chris
Mark G.	Carmel
Deane	Cammy
Russ	Robyn
Maria	Skip
Paige	Rev. Steve
Carole	Rick
David	Bob
Diane	Teresa
Matt M.	Paula
Katie	Jeff
John C.	Grace
Julie	Joy
Christina	Amy
Emily	Kathie
Laurel & Saki	Shelly
Leonard	Julie
Mike & Veronique	Matthew
Diane & Jared	Dave
Julie	Pat
John & family	Rosella
Sandy	John
Betsy	Kris' family
Nancy	Bev
Altrina	Meg
Phyllis I.	Rick
Klaus	Chaz
Sally & Cary	Marcos
Glenn	Jim
Jennifer M.	Jordan
Jim	Dick

Please Pray for those in the Armed Services

Tristan, David, Katie, Kris, Devin, Adam, Jason, John

**First Sunday of Advent
10:15 a.m. – November 28, 2021**

Presider and Preacher	The Rev. Liz Tichenor
Lay Eucharistic Minister	Gary Lawrence
Reader	Phil Wolf
Parish Musician	Charles Rus
Videographer	Ken Carlson
Sound Tech	Rob Evans
Communion Bread Maker	Kim McConnell
Altar Guild	Amy Lewis, Carol Buntjer, Jennifer Vargen
Ushers	Hugo Llamas, Dan Remer, Myron Backhaus, Marshall Wells

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