Advent 2026
While we are waiting...

During the voluntary, someone will bring in a lit candle (or the crook/lighter) from the pulpit side of the chancel.

Advent 1: Habakkuk, November 29, 2026
The congregation sings verse 1 of hymn #92, twice (wreath lighters get into place).

Leader: While we are waiting,
the world around us rushes on
shouting despair,
scorning hope,
insisting that all is lost;

but God still has hope to share with this whirling world.
So God calls us to wait, to watch,
and to go and tell the world:
All: **God's salvation is on the way!**

(One purple candle is lighted during the first hymn.)

Advent 2: Esther, December 6, 2026
The congregation sings verse 1 of hymn #92, twice (wreath lighters get into place).

Leader: While we are waiting,
the world around us rushes on,
shouting despair,
scorning hope
insisting that all is lost.

But God is still at work,
calling us to care for one another,
calling us to hope,
calling us to be courageous,
for such a time as this.

Go and tell the world:
All: **God's salvation is on the way!**

(Two purple candles are lighted during the first hymn.)

Advent 3: Isaiah 42:1-9, December 13, 2026

The congregation sings verse 1 of hymn #92, twice (wreath lighters get into place).

Leader: While we are waiting,
the world around us rushes on,
shouting despair,
scorning hope
insisting that all is lost.

But God is doing a new thing,
sending us a Savior,
God's chosen one in whom God's soul delights.
a servant who brings light, joy, freedom, and justice,
for us and for all.

Go and tell the world:
All: God's salvation is on the way!

(Two purple candles and then the pink candle are lighted during the first hymn.)

Advent 4: Matthew 1: 18-25, December 20, 2026

The congregation sings verse 1 of hymn #92, twice (wreath lighters get into place).

Leader: While we are waiting,
the world around us rushes on,
shouting despair,
scorning hope
insisting that all is lost.

But God still comes to us in dreams and visions,
promising us a Savior,
God's own Son,
Immanuel,
God with us,
now and always.

Go and tell the world:
All: God's salvation is on the way!

(Two purple candles are lighted followed by the pink and then the final purple candle during the first hymn.)

Christmas Eve (both services): Luke 2

The congregation sings verses 1 and 4 of "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (wreath lighters get into place)

Leader: Our waiting is over!
Our Savior is born!
Go and tell the world:
All: **God's salvation has come**
for us and for all!

(Two purple candles are lighted followed by the pink and the final purple candle and then the Christ candle during the first hymn.)