

November 27, 2022
The First Sunday in Advent

Prelude Music and Bringing in the Light

Greeting and Announcements

Welcome Statement *(Printed on the bulletin insert)*

Prelude to Silence *O Come, O Come Immanuel* (v. 1)

O come, O come, Immanuel, and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Silence *...a time to breathe...*

Hymn *All Earth Is Waiting* (NCH #121)

Lighting the Candle of Hope

- **Hymn** *Canticle of the Turning*
- **Morning Prayer**

Holy and Loving God, we give thanks for the promise of this sacred season and for the hope we find in the Christ Child. We confess that we often fail to live out this hope. We are easily distracted by our own projects and preparations and we lose focus on the One who is the source of our hope. Forgive us, God, and restore we pray. Amen.

* **Assurance**

The promise of the season of Advent is the promise of Emmanuel, God is with us. We are called to keep awake, to be ready for his arrival. So let us lay aside all those things that distract us from faithful watching for God, believing the Good News of the Gospel—that in Jesus we are forgiven and through him we all can say:

Thanks be to God!

O Come, O Come Immanuel (v. 2)

O come, O Wisdom from on high, And order all things far and nigh.
To us the path of knowledge show; And help us in her way to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Invitation to the Table

If you are hungry, or even just curious, come and eat

Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

First Choir Anthem *With Great Anticipation* R. G. Huff

Children's Story

1st Scripture Reading **Isaiah 1:1-9**

2nd Scripture Reading **Isaiah 2:1-5**

Sermon

• **Closing Hymn** *Come, O Long Expected Jesus* (NCH #122)

• **Benediction**

“In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.” Step now into God's future. Turn your own swords and spears into plowshares and pruning hooks. Go, and be at peace with God and with your neighbor. Amen.

• **Carrying the light from the sanctuary**

Postlude

• *Please stand if you are able*

Before everything, after everything, in everything

Be Kind!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist: Marci Thurwachter

The adult Bible Study Meets this morning following the worship service. We will be reading the Isaiah passages used in today's service.

The Giving Tree is set up in the entrance hall to the church. Pick a card and give someone a happier Christmas.

We will be ringing bells for the Salvation Army again this year. See Pastor Brad if you are able to pick up a shift and he will get you signed up. Thanks.

Address Changes—If your mailing or email address changes please send the new address to the church office so we can keep our records up to date.

First UCC Welcome Statement:

“Come to me,” Jesus said, “all who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28)

Reflecting the friendship of God toward all Creation, First United Church of Christ—Sauk City is an Open and Affirming congregation. We welcome all persons—of any sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, race, age, family structure, faith background, ability or economic circumstance. We recognize every person as a child of God, welcome all to worship and serve with us and consider all who come to be a necessary part of this fellowship with all its privileges and responsibilities.

Church Offering Update:

Monthly Offering Status:	
Monthly Budget:	\$ 16,667
October offering:	<u>\$ 13,089</u>
Net:	\$ (3,578)

Totals for Year:	
Offering budget thru Oct:	\$ 166,670

Offering collected thru Oct:	\$ 120,126
Expenses thru Oct:	<u>\$ 162,531</u>
Net:	\$ (42,405)

The most practical thing is not to weep but to act and to have faith in God's assistance and grace in our trying to do God's will.

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

Isaiah 1.1-9

¹ The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

² Hear, O heavens, and listen, O earth;
for the Lord has spoken:

I reared children and brought them up,
but they have rebelled against me.

³ The ox knows its owner,
and the donkey its master's crib;
but Israel does not know,
my people do not understand.

⁴ Ah, sinful nation,
people laden with iniquity,
offspring who do evil,
children who deal corruptly,
who have forsaken the Lord,
who have despised the Holy One of Israel,
who are utterly estranged!

⁵ Why do you seek further beatings?
Why do you continue to rebel?
The whole head is sick,
and the whole heart faint.

⁶ From the sole of the foot even to the head,
there is no soundness in it,
but bruises and sores
and bleeding wounds;
they have not been drained, or bound up,
or softened with oil.

⁷ Your country lies desolate,
your cities are burned with fire;
in your very presence
aliens devour your land;

it is desolate, as overthrown by foreigners.

⁸ And daughter Zion is left
like a booth in a vineyard,
like a shelter in a cucumber field,
like a besieged city.

⁹ If the Lord of hosts
had not left us a few survivors,
we would have been like Sodom,
and become like Gomorrah.

Isaiah 2.1-5

¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² In days to come
the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³ Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

⁴ He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵ O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!