



Falmouth Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation



10:00 AM

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT: HOPE

Nov. 28th, 2021



GOD'S REVOLUTION OF LOVE

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & LIFE OF THE CHURCH

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE *(Please remain in your seat while passing the peace of Christ.)*

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

PRELUDE

“Children of the Heavenly Father”
Swedish Folk Melody

Tim Hartsfield

CALL TO WORSHIP &

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

The Reid Family

One: Loving God, for You animals prepared a bed. For You the heavens shone brightly and stars clapped their hands.

All: For You shepherds stood watch and marveled at how small You were. For You wise ones came from the East, and when they saw You they fell on their knees.

One: Because You were Almighty God and yet You were so vulnerable.

All: You were God and yet You had a soft spot on your head. God with milk on Your breath, God wrapped in swaddling clothes.

One: Emmanuel, God with us, let us prepare our hearts and world for Your advent.

The first candle is lit, symbolizing Hope.

All: May we be people of hope, in our homes, our community, our world.

One: Come, Prince of Hope, Come.



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: When Mary was with child the world viewed her with suspicion.

All: We admit that we, too, struggle to believe other's truths, and even silence the knowledge of our own hearts.

One: As Joseph and Mary searched for a place to shelter, the world closed its doors.

All: We confess that we, too, close ourselves off from the suffering of this world, choosing apathy over empathy and ignorance over engagement.

One: When Jesus was born the powerful attacked his family, trying to stamp out the hope he promised.

All: We realize that we, too, participate in systems that oppress the vulnerable. We, too, are afraid to fully embrace the hope that God offers us.

One: Emmanuel, God with us, forgive us our trespasses and open our hearts.

All: So that on Christmas Day we will be ready to receive You in our midst and our lives may be testaments of the Christmas Story.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Let us remember: Christ came to earth so that we might be redeemed.

All: There is nothing we can do, think, or say, that can separate us from our God who loves us.

One: Hallelujah!

All: Hallelujah!

HYMN

“One Candle Is Lit”

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE

Luke 21:25-36

Jody Shellene

THE SERMON

Rev. Edson

CHORAL ANTHEM

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
12TH Century Latin hymn

Chancel Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

HYMN

“Old Rugged Cross”

FCC Church School

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Go in Peace”

POSTLUDE

“Earth and All Stars”
David N. Johnson

Tim Hartsfield

* Musical material is presented under CCLI License #1117602

If you are new to worship, welcome and please fill out a blue visitor card. Throughout the order of worship, if print is in bold, words may be spoken in unison.

Thank you to our worship participants:

Presiding:

The Rev. Amelia Edson, Settled Pastor

Music:

Tim Hartsfield

Ushers:

Steve & Kim Hendry

Kids' Church:

Kristen Tripp

Liturgist:

Jody Shellene

Online Worship:

Virginia Eddy, Tom Stegemann, Jack Gervais



Next Sunday's Lectionary

Baruch 5:1-9; Philippians 1:3-11, Luke 3:1-6