

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *In the Beginning Until Now* Huong Dao

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SILENT MEDITATION

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Pastor: As Advent dawns, we acknowledge that all is not right with our world.

Lighters: We light the first Advent candle as a sign of our longing for the coming light of Christ, who will make all wrongs right.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, and fill our broken world with the light of your justice and righteousness.

* **HYMN 82** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

* **CONFESSION AND PARDON**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of the future, in Jesus Christ you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule.

Yet, we confess that we have not expected your kingdom.

We live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment, and contributing to wrongdoing in the world.

We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace.

In your mercy, forgive us.

By your Spirit, give us the wisdom to welcome your way, that we might stand firm when Christ comes at last, to make all wrongs right.

Silent Prayers & Assurance of Pardon

* **SHARING CHRIST’S PEACE**

Hymn 92 “While We Are Waiting, Come”

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.

Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come.

Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Come, Savior, quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come.

Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

ANTHEM *In the Bleak Midwinter* Gustav Holst

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Jeremiah 33:14-16

SERMON “Longing for Wrongs to Be Made Right”
First in a Series for Advent: Every Longing Heart

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

* **HYMN 88** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *The Apostle’s Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Self-Offering

Offertory *How Firm a Foundation* arr. Phillip Keveren

* *Doxology* (Hymnal, back page)

* *Prayer of Dedication*

THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord’s Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks ...

Let us pray for God’s rule on earth as Jesus taught us, saying:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

The Words of Institution

The Feast

527 “Eat This Bread”

515 “I Come with Joy”

Prayer After Communion

GOING OUT TO SERVE

* **HYMN 314** “Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness”
Soloist sings verse 1, Choir sings verse 2
Congregation sings verses 3-5

During the singing of the hymn, you are invited to come forward with your monthly 5-cents-a-meal offering to fight hunger, both here and throughout the world. Please place your cash or check in the soup can by the Communion Table.

* **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE *A Remembrance* William Gillock

END OF WORSHIP ... BEGINNING OF SERVICE



We light two candles in worship. The white candle reminds us of the presence of Christ’s spirit in worship. The smaller candle is in a candle holder made by a member of our partner church, Iglesia El Divino Salvador in Guatemala, and it reminds us of our covenant with them.

Bold font indicates congregational participation.

* You are invited to stand in body or in spirit.

Today's liturgist: Woody Ferrell
Today's greeters: Woody, Janet and Austin Ferrell
Today's ushers: Bill & Terri Carpenter
Fellowship: Tom Fife's Care Group

“Every Longing Heart” Starts Today

The theme of this year's Advent series, “Every Longing Heart,” comes from the well-known Advent hymn, “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus.” The first verse of this hymn concludes with the words, “Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of *every longing heart.*” What did Israel long for in exile? And what do we long for as we experience “exile” in our own lives?

December 9: “Longing for Healing” (Malachi 3:1-4)

December 16: “Longing for Union” (Isaiah 54:4-8)

December 23: “Longing for Home” (Zephaniah 3:14-20)

The Righteous Branch

The branch on the communion table represents God's promise of a coming ruler for Israel. As the prophet Jeremiah says, “I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land” (Jeremiah 33:15). The lighted candles on the branch represent our longing for the coming of Christ.

“There's No Place Like It: Meditations on the Idea of Home”

Our sense of home deeply shapes our life and faith journeys. In our 9:30 AM class during Advent, we will use several familiar biblical texts as starting places to explore different dimensions of our sense of what is “home.” How are we at home in space, in time, in our bodies, and in our relationships? When have we experienced alienation from home? Join leader Win Word-Sims as we explore biblical stories about alienation and homecoming and share about our own stories. Time will be set aside each Sunday to remember migrants and refugees around the world who have left or lost their homes, and who are still searching for a place of belonging. We meet in the downstairs classroom (Room 104).

Alternative Christmas Giving Is Here

Stop by the Outreach table in the Narthex to make a donation of \$10 or more to one of the organizations below and pick up a card saying that you have made a donation in honor of your friend or loved one. This year we are sponsoring (1) the Eblen Energy Project (local), which provides families with heating and cooling assistance, (2) Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (national), which is the emergency and

refugee program of the PC(USA), and (3) educational scholarships for the children of our sister community in Guatemala (global). Visit the Equal Exchange table and consider giving fair trade items. We are also offering items from the Wi'am Palestinian Conflict Resolution Center.

Men's Brunch Bunch will meet at 10:30 AM this Saturday, December 8 at J.K.'s on Long Shoals. We gather every other Saturday to eat and enjoy fellowship! Contact John Riley at (828) 575-2894.

December Fellowship Meal

Join us on Sunday, December 16, after worship for a “Christmas Tea” featuring delightful finger foods and desserts. All are welcome, and if you are able, please bring something festive for the table.

2019 Stewardship Campaign Update

2019 Operating Fund pledges made	50
2019 Operating Pledge Total	\$161,255
2019 Member Contribution Budget Goal	\$159,475

Worship bulletin announcements for Sunday, December 9 are due to Administrator, Erin May, by noon on Wednesday, December 5.

Calendar

Sun	2	11:00 AM	Worship
		12:30 PM	Out-to-Lunch Bunch (see Marlene)
Tue	4	6:00 PM	Building and Grounds Committee Advent Lectio Divina Group
Wed	5	4:00 PM	Finance Committee
		5:00 PM	Outreach Committee
		6:00 PM	Worship Committee
		7:00 PM	Choir
Sat	8	10:30 AM	Men's Brunch Bunch
Sun	9	9:30 AM	Sunday Morning Class
		11:00 AM	Worship
		12:15 PM	Out-to-Lunch Bunch (see Marlene)

New Hope Presbyterian Church

We are a welcoming, inclusive faith community, seeking to respond to Christ's call to love and serve, through ministries of compassion and social justice.

3070 Sweeten Creek Road, Asheville, NC 28803 | (828) 274-0191
 Kim Wells, Pastor | Erin May, Church Administrator
 Rob Blackwell, Director of Music Ministry/Pianist
www.newhopepcusaasheville.org

*New Hope
 Presbyterian Church*

“Including, Renewing, Serving”

First Sunday of Advent
 December 2, 2018
 11 o'clock



“Longing for Wrongs to Be Made Right”

First in a Series for Advent:



“Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of *every longing heart.*”
 —“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus,” verse 1