

November 30, 2025 First Sunday of Advent
Worship Aid for Great Kills Moravian Church
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/352704864?pwd=V28wNGtRdXFESDBzRW9OSWdaQTZGZzo9>

Call in number: 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 352 704 864
Password: 401272

Prelude

Welcome/Announcement

Call to Worship: Lighting of the First Advent Candle: HOPE

Reader: Today is the first Sunday in the season of Advent. Advent means “coming,” and in this season we prepare for the coming of Christ. We light the candle on the Advent wreath to remind us of the blessings that Christ brings to the world.

Reader: The Advent wreath includes many symbols. The wreath is in the circle, with no beginning and no ending. This reminds us that there is no beginning and no ending to God, and that God’s love and caring for us never ends. The green branches are a sign of ever new life. The candles tell us of the light shining into the world with Jesus Christ. The colors of the Advent candles remind us of our need for God’s help to be the people we should be. The white candle, which we light on Christmas Eve, signifies the birth of Jesus.

Reader: Today we light the first candle, the candle of hope. (***Light the first candle.***)

Reader: The prophet Jeremiah spoke words of hope to Israel. He talked about the promise of Shalom and of a new beginning. We hope and pray for a world of peace and harmony.

Reader: Hope is like a flame that warms and comforts us. As we light this candle, we celebrate the hope of the prophets and the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

Congregation: We continue to hope in God’s promise that Christ

will continue to fill our lives and the life of the world with love and joy and peace.

Let us Pray Together:

Thank you, God for the flame of hope. As we prepare for Christ's coming, help us to share our hope with others. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Hymn: "O Come O Come Immanuel" MBW Page 274 verse 1

O come, O come, Immanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lowly exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Im-man-u-el shall come to you, O Israel!

Watchword For The Week: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!
Isaiah 2:5

(Please Stand if able.)

Gathering Hymn: "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" MBW Page 256

Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear: the evening is advancing, and dark-er night is near. The bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh. Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.

The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near; go forth as he approach-es with al-le-lu-ias clear. The marriage feast is wait-ing; the gates wide open stand. A-rise, O heirs of glo-ry; the bride-groom is at hand.

Our hope and ex-pec-ta-tions, O Je-sus, now ap-pear; a-rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be-night-ed sphere. With hearts and hands up-lift-ed, we look, O Lord, to you for all the earth's re-demp-tion, cre-a-tion made a-new.

(Please continue to Stand if able.)

Liturgy: Advent MBW Page 49

Shout for joy, you heavens; rejoice, all the earth! The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people together will see it. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Rejoice greatly, shout for joy! See, your king is coming to you. He is righteous and brings salvation.

Hymn:

ST.THEODULPH

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater son! Hail in the time appointed his reign on earth begun! He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free, to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

We praise you, the Lord God of Israel! You came to the help of your people and have set them free.

You have raised up for us a mighty Savior, a descendant of your servant David.

You promised through your holy prophets long ago that you would save us from our enemies, from the power of all those who hate us.

You have shown the mercy promised to our ancestors and have remembered your holy covenant.

With a solemn oath to our ancestor Abraham, you promised to rescue us from our enemies and allow us to serve you without fear,

So that we might be holy and righteous before you all the days of our life.

By your tender mercy you cause the bright dawn of Salvation to rise on us,

To give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The voice of the messenger echoes from the desert, calling us to prepare the way of the Lord and to make a straight path on which he may come. Let us confess our sins, so that our crooked ways will be made straight and the rough ways smooth.

(Sitting)

Please join me:

Gracious Lord Jesus, you come to us with the good news of salvation, but too often we fail to notice. You come to us day by day, yet we close the doors of our hearts when it seems convenient to do things our own way. We ignore your presence and your leadership. We have failed to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. Forgive us, merciful Lord. May we live so that the world will know that you have come. Amen.

Through John the Baptizer, we hear the Lord's promise: turn away from your sins, and God will forgive you your sins.

Hymn:

TRURO

Lift up your heads, you mighty gates, behold the King of Glory waits; the King of Kings is drawing near, the Savior of the world is here.

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple set apart from earthly use for heav'n's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

So, come, my Sov-'reign, enter in; let new and nobler life begin; the Holy Spirit guide us on, until our glorious goal is won.

Eternal God, Ruler of all ages, graciously you come to us in order that we might come to you, through the merit of Jesus Christ, strengthened by the Holy Spirit.

Help us and all your children to respond to the call of your gospel with faith, love, and hope.

God of faith, you created humanity to serve and praise you, and even when we rebelled against you, you promised to send a Savior to redeem us from our sins:

Strengthen our faith in your saving work through Christ. As you chose the people of Israel to hear the promise of

redemption through the prophets, may people today believe in your good will for all that you have made.

God of love, you fulfilled your promise of a redeemer in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ:

Grant us the gifts of the Holy Spirit that we may share your love with the sick and the afflicted, with the poor and homeless, with the victims of injustice and discrimination, and with all who are experiencing times of trouble.

God of hope, you comfort us through your Savior's promise to return in glory at the end of time:

As we await the coming of the Prince of Peace, let us not despair. We long for you to inspire all the nations and peoples of the world to turn to cooperation and nurture, rather than to hatred and destruction.

God of faith, love, and hope, to you and to you alone we pray:

For you are our God, the only God, forever and ever. Amen.

(Standing, as able, the Hosanna is divided in two parts and sung antiphonally.) MBW Page 239

First Part: Hosanna! Blessed is he that comes!

Second Part:.....Hosanna! Blessed is he that comes,

FirstPart: Hosanna!

Second Part: Hosanna!

First Part: Hosanna!

Second Part: Hosanna!

First Part: Blessed is he that comes

Second Part:Blessed is he that comes

First Part: he that comes in the name of the Lord!

SecondPart.....he that comes in the name of the Lord!

First Part: Hosanna! Blessed is he that comes!

First Part:Hosanna! Blessed is he that comes!

First Part: Hosanna!

Second Part:Hosanna!

First Part: Hosanna!

Second Part: Hosanna!

First Part: Hosanna

Second Part: Hosanna in the high-____est

First:in the high-----est!

(Repeat from Beginning)

First Part: Hosanna!

Second Part: Hosanna!

First Part: Hosanna!

Second Part:.....Hosanna in the high-est!

ALL:.....Hosanna in the high----est!!

Lord, you have kept the promise you made to our ancestors, and have come to the help of your servant people.

You remembered to show mercy to Abraham and Sarah and to all their descendants forever!

We praise you, Lord. You are enthroned in glory, yet you came and continue to come for all who will receive you. We praise you, for you are good, and your mercy endures forever.

To you be glory and power, forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn:

REGENT SQUARE

**Praise to you, O Lord, we render for your love in Jesus shown;
may that love, so strong and tender, bind us fast to him alone;
now and ever, now and ever, gather us among your own.**

(Sitting)

Offering Our Gifts To God:

Offertory

(Standing)

Doxology: "For The Life That You Have Given" MBW Page 819

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known, with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own: here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring. Give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.

Prayer Of Blessing: Please join me in the Prayer of Blessing.

God of hope, we are asked to come, and walk in the light of the Lord! We want to walk in your light during this Advent season and follow the path that you lead for us to follow in our lives. We want to share the good news of salvation through these gifts. Thank you, for giving us the resources that we can share with others and to help prosper our work and witness in our community and world. May all of us be ready for Christ's coming. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

(Sitting)

God's Word for Today

1st Scripture Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5 Pew Bible Page 715

The Mountain of the Lord

This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem: In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it. Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. Come, O house of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

2nd Scripture Reading: Psalm 122 Pew Bible Page 650 (Responsive Reading)

I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."

Our feet are standing in your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built like a city that is closely compacted together.

That is where the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, to praise the name of the LORD according to the statute given to Israel.

There the thrones for judgment stand, the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May those who love you be secure.

May there be peace within your walls and security within your citadels.”

For the sake of my brothers and friends, I will say, “Peace be within you.”

For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your prosperity.

Message: Hope Can’t Wait!

Pastor Melissa Johnson

Hymn of Response: “We Come To You, Our Father” MBW Pg 433 vs. 1, 3

We come to you, our Fa-ther, with thoughts of thanks and praise, for your a-bun-dant mer-cy, and all your love and grace; we praise you for your good-ness and for your lov-ing care, for dai-ly show’rs of bless-ing, for an-swerts to our prayers.

And now, O God, our Fa-ther, we pledge our-selves a-new by work and prayer and wor-ship to serve your king-dom too. With grate-ful hearts we praise you and pray, O Lord, that we who are your church at pres-ent, may serve you faith-ful-ly.

Prayers of The People

The Lord’s Prayer: (All)

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

(Please Stand if able.)

Sending Hymn: “People in Darkness Are Looking For Light” MBW Pg 266

People in darkness are looking for light, come, come, come Jesus Christ; people with blindness are longing for sight, come, Lord Jesus Christ.____ These days of adventure when all people wait are days for the advent of Love.

People with sickness are praying for health, come, come, come Jesus Christ; people in poverty want to have wealth, come, Lord Jesus Christ.____ These days of adventure when all people wait are days for the advent of Hope.

People in trouble would like to be free, come, come, come Jesus Christ; people with arguments want to agree, come, Lord Jesus Christ.____ These days of adventure when all people wait are days for the advent of Peace.

People in sorrow are yearning to sing, come, come, come Jesus Christ; people in misery want bells to ring, come, Lord Jesus Christ.____ These days of adventure when all people wait are days for the advent of Joy.

(Please continue to Stand if able.)

Benediction:

Musical Response:(All) In the name of Jesus. Amen.

(Please remain seated in quiet meditation during the postlude.)

Postlude

Pastor and Co-Leaders: December,2025

December 7, 2025 - Pastor Blondel Jones-Grant/Liz Reres

December 14, 2025 - Pastor Jesus Laguerra/Normalee Mallawaarachchi

December 21, 2025- Muriel Timari/Sunday School Christmas Message

December 24, 2025 - Pastor Jesus Laguerra/Board of Elders

December 25, 2025- Pastor Jesus Laguerra/Todd Hallett

Next Sunday, December 7, 2025, we will welcome Pastor Blondel Jones - Grant. We will be celebrating the Second Sunday of Advent with Holy Communion. We look forward to welcoming you all here.

On Sunday, December 21, 2025, we will have the Sunday School bring their Christmas message to us. We will be having a Lovefeast as part of the service. Please come out and support our Sunday School children.

Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24, 2025, at 5:00 pm we will have our Christmas Candlelight Service. We look forward to seeing everyone.



Christmas

Flowers 2025

We welcome your donations to provide beautiful Christmas flowers to decorate our Sanctuary for the Christmas Season.

Name: _____

Number of 6 in Poinsettia Plant: _____ x \$12 each = _____
Payment Enclosed

Presented By:

Dedicated To:

Please make checks payable to:

Great Kills Moravian Church

Deadline for placing your order is:

Wednesday, December 17th

Please return the order form, with payment, to the church office or place in Secretary's mailbox.