



## Second Sunday of Advent December 10, 2023

*How does a weary world rejoice?  
We find joy in connection.*

### **O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL...**

**Prelude** *(Anyone is welcome to place more ornaments on the tree!!)*

### **Gathering Christmas Singing**

***Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*** VT 247

#### ***Light of the Stable* Verse 1**

Hail, Hail to the newborn king  
Let our voices sing him our praises  
Hail, Hail to the guiding light  
That brought us tonight to our savior

#### **CHORUS**

Halle Hallelujah  
Halle Hallelujah  
Halle Hallelujah  
Halle Hallelujahaaeah

#### **Verse 2**

Come now, there it shines so bright  
To the Knowing light of the stable  
Kneel close to the child so dear  
Cast aside your fear and be thankful.

#### **CHORUS**

**Grounding Moment: *Lessons in Connection*\***

**Call to Worship\***

**HYMN** *Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus* VT 218  
**Fellowship Greeting**

**HYMN** *Hope is a Candle (verse 2)* VT 211  
**Candle Lighting Liturgy\***

**WE TELL GOD’S STORY**

**Call to Confession\***

**Prayer of Confession\***

God of laughter,  
God of open front doors  
and family reunions,  
we confess that we often doubt good news.

**We move through this world  
waiting for the other shoe to drop,  
waiting for life to fall apart,  
waiting for our humanity to get the best of us.**

Instead of leaning into joy,  
we lean into scarcity.

**We lean into fear.**

**We lean into isolation.**

Forgive us for forgetting that joy is amplified when shared.  
**Heal the wounds we have from past hurts,  
and teach us how to throw open our doors like Elizabeth.  
Show us how to find joy in connection.  
Amen.**

**Words of Forgiveness\***

**Children’s Time**

**Prayer for Illumination\***

**Scripture Reading: *Luke 1:24-45; Isaiah 40:1-11C***

**Sermon**

**Music for Meditation**

**WE SHARE OUR STORIES**

**Prayers of the People & Lord’s Prayer  
Announcements**

**WE GO REJOICING!**

**HYMN** *Comfort, Comfort, O My People* VT 212

**Benediction: *How does a weary world rejoice?\****

**Postlude** ... *receive the postlude as a musical blessing for the week ahead*

*\*Prayers by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

Sound: Ryker Wiens  
Livestream: Joel Iwashige  
Ushers: Glenda & Rick Hooper  
Nursery: Anna Crable  
Pianist: Peggy Stucky, DeAnna Goering  
Song Leader: Bryan Kehr  
Worship Leader: Joy Miller  
Poem and Candle Lighting: Hilda Iwashige & Anna Crable  
Children's Time: Lona Willems  
Scripture Reader: Anita & Bryan Kehr

**TODAY:** *Fellowship time in Common Grounds* following worship.

**11:00am Sunday School** for all ages. *Salt & Light* study group will meet in the basement classroom; the discussion class in Fellowship Hall (discussing the Advent Devotional)

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:**

- **Dec 21 – 6:00pm** Longest Night Service (also livestreamed); **6:45pm** Soup Supper **7:30pm** (approx.) Christmas Caroling (*bring desserts/snacks to share afterwards!*)
- **Dec 24 – 9:30am** Sunday morning worship;  
**7pm** Christmas Eve worship with a children's program, candle lighting, Kristal Bells, singing, and more (*bring finger foods to share after the service*)
- **Dec 31 – Sunday morning worship + Journaling/Prayer after worship.** Join Pastor Tonya in the fellowship hall after worship for a guided journaling practice especially appropriate for the last day of the year! Childcare will be provided. RSVP's helpful.
- **Jan 7 – Epiphany & Star Words (*hearing reflections from 2023 and receiving 2024 Star Words*).** Send your 2023 Star Word reflections to Pastor Tonya by Jan 3 to be included in the worship service (shared anonymously).

**Christmas Giving Opportunities:**

- ***Salthawk Community Support*** – monetary contributions for Christmas sacks for students. Details in *This Week @ FMC* on our website.
- ***Hat, Mitten, & Just Simply Socks Tree*** in our church foyer (*to be donated to Salvation Army*)
- ***MCC (Mennonite Central Committee ) Baby Bundles*** – a \$25 contribution per bundle.



**First Mennonite Church - Hutchinson KS**

***Arms Wide Open: To Serve & Be Served***

Phone: 620-662-9385

Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 9-2pm; Wed 10-1pm

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