

**Order of Worship**  
**November 29, 2009**  
**First Sunday in Advent**

**Entrance**

Gathering

Welcome and Registration of Attendance

Megan Saucier

*Please turn off cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices. Otherwise, you might miss God's call! Childcare is available for ages birth through four years old. You may ask an usher for directions to the nurseries.*

Congregational Concerns (*Announcements are printed in your Warwick Weekly.*)

Centering Time

Centering Music: *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Walker, Southern  
Harmony, 1854, arr. Mocklebust

Gloria Dei Ringers; Susan Brendle and Eden Moorehead, percussion

Lighting of the Altar Candles: (8:30) Dylan Girvin; (11:00) Fallon Sherwood  
*(The large freestanding white candle called a Paschal Candle burns for worship during the season of Easter and at baptisms and funerals.)*

\*Greeting

Bill Davidson

Lift up your heads, O gates!

**And be lifted up, O ancient doors! That the King of glory may come in.**

Psalm 24:7

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,  
**Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.**" Isaiah 40:3

Sing, and rejoice, O daughter of Zion!

**For lo, I will come and dwell in your midst, says the Lord.**

Many nations shall join themselves to the Lord in that day,

**And shall be my people; and I will dwell in your midst.**

Zechariah 2:10-11b

\*Hymn of Praise: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* 211

*(stanzas 1-7 with antiphon and responses)*

\*Blessing of the Advent Wreath

Christ came to bring us salvation and has promised to come again. Let us pray that we may always be ready to welcome him.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

That the keeping of Advent may open our hearts to God's love,  
That the light of Christ may penetrate the darkness of sin,  
That this wreath may constantly remind us to prepare for the coming of Christ,  
That the Christmas season may fill us with peace and joy as we strive to follow the example of Jesus,

**Loving God, your church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin. Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath.**

**May their light reflect the splendor of Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.** *(Book of Blessings, U.S.A., 20th Cent.)*

\*Lighting of the First Advent Candle (8:30) The Moorehead Family  
(11:00) The Rodgers Family

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope.

May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation.

**All: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.**

\*Advent Song: *Come, Lord Jesus*, verse 1 (see Warwick Weekly for text and music)

**Proclamation and Response**

Joys and Concerns

Jessie Squires

Anthem: (11:00) *Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Wright

Junior Choir

Children's Time

Bill Davidson

*(Afterward, ages 4-7 may leave for Junior Church in room 27, led by the ushers.)*

Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

**Holy Lord, we come with joy to celebrate the birth of your Son, who rescued us from the darkness of sin by making the cross a tree of life and light. May this tree, arrayed in splendor, remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ, that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines in our hearts. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*(Book of Blessings, U.S.A., 20th Cent.)*

\*The Peace

\*Prayer for Illumination

Megan Saucier

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

The Old Testament Lesson: Jeremiah 33:14-16

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Anthem: (8:30) *Come, Messiah, Come*

Schrader

(see Warwick Weekly for text)

Praise Choir

(11:00) *A Prayer for Advent*

Nolan

(see Warwick Weekly for text)

Chancel Choir; Ryan Williams, cello

\*The Gospel Lesson: Luke 21:25-36

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: *Don't Miss the Promise!*

Bill Davidson

*The sermon manuscript is posted on the church website by Wednesday  
of each week (www.wmumc.org).*

The Pastoral Prayer

Dedication of our Tithes, Offerings and Commitments

Jessie Squires

Offertory: *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Prichard/Purifoy

\*Doxology: *Doxology for Advent (see Warwick Weekly for text and music)*

## Thanksgiving

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

\*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 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. Amen.**

## Sending Forth

\*Hymn of Sending Forth: *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* 203

Bill Davidson

\*Dismissal with Blessing

\*Postlude: *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*

Luther, arr. Young

*Please remain in an attitude of prayer until the choir and pastors have exited.*

\*Please stand as able.