

Second Sunday of Advent  
December 4, 2022



[www.riverofhopehutchinson.org](http://www.riverofhopehutchinson.org)  
Worship on Facebook Premiere, Sundays at 10:30am

## Gathering

### Music to Prepare Us For Worship

Good morning! River of Hope wishes to acknowledge and honor the *Wahpekute* (*prounounced* – “wah-PEH-koo-tay”) people upon whose ancestral homelands we gather for worship this morning, as well as all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to care for this place – this land – and call it their home.

### Opening Song – “Messiah”

# MESSIAH

Larry Olson

$\text{♩} = 110$

Someone's shouting from the des-ert. Someone's shouting from the sea.  
 Someone's shouting from the cit-y. I am young,— I am cold.  
 Someone's shouting I am brok-en. Someone's shouting make me whole.

Someone's shouting from the mountain. Someone's shouting from the val-ley. Mes-  
 Someone's shouting from the country. I am lone-ly, I am old.  
 Someone's shouting come and change me. Someone's shouting save my soul.

si ah, come and be our King.

Mes - si ah, come and be our

King.

## Welcome

Wherever you are on your journey of faith,  
we believe God meets you right where you are, and you are welcome here.

## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the community of the Holy Spirit is with you all. **And also with you.**

## Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,  
who alone does wondrous things.

**Blessed be God's name forever.  
Amen.**

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.  
Let us confront our sins,  
and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of new beginnings,  
**we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.  
We have strayed from your paths.  
We prepare for war instead of peace.  
We dishonor one another and your creation.  
Purify us with your refining fire  
and set us again on your way of love,  
that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,  
and welcome your coming among us.  
Amen.**

People of God,  
a new thing is growing in our midst,  
a tender branch,  
a living sign.  
By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.  
You have put on ✝ Christ,  
and your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

**Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Loving God,

**be to us as a bulldozer of the spirit.**

**Clear your road in us;**

**clear a path through the detritus of possessions and obsessions.**

**Thrust aside our divided aims and devious games.**

**Topple the ramparts of pride and the doubts that deride.**

**Make a highway on which Christ may come**

**and take possession of the whole territory of our being.**

**To the glory of your name we pray.**

**Amen!**

~ written by Bruce Prewer, and posted on **Bruce Prewer's Home Page.** <http://www.bruceprewer.com/>

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Hymn – “Emmanuel”



# EMMANUEL

Steve Angrisano

F F/A B $\flat$  F B $\flat$  F C sus4 C  
 Come, come Em - man - u - el! Child of God, ap - pear.

Dm Dm/C B $\flat$  F Gm7 C sus4 C  
 Heav - en and earth, re - joice! Sal - va - tion is draw - ing

Dm C B $\flat$  F/A Gm7 C sus4 C F F/A B $\flat$  C *last time Fine - F*  
 near. Sal - va - tion is draw - ing near.

F F/A B $\flat$  C F F/A B $\flat$  C  
 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,  
 O come, O Wis - dom strong and right  
 O come, O Rod of Jes - se's stem;  
 O come, De - sire of na - tions bind  
 Re - joice! Em - man - u - el

Dm Dm/C B $\flat$  C F F/A B $\flat$  C  
 And ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,  
 and or - der all things with your might.  
 From ev - 'ry foe de - liv - er them  
 In one the hearts of hu - man - kind;  
 shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

F F/A B $\flat$  C Dm Dm/C B $\flat$  F/A  
 That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 To us the path of knowl - edge show,  
 That trust your might - y pow'r to save,  
 Make all our sad di - vi - sions cease,  
 Re - joice! Em - man - u - el

Gm7 B $\flat$ /C C F F/A B $\flat$  C  
 Un - til the Child of God ap - pear.  
 and teach us in your way to go.  
 And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.  
 And bring to us your Reign of Peace.  
 shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

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Greet Someone New

Music to bring us back together: (refrain of Emmanuel)

Children's Time

## THE STORY

(Reader): Our story and God's story continues today with a reading from The Gospel of Matthew chapter 3 verses 1-12.

(Reader): In those days John the Baptist appeared in the desert of Judea announcing,

**(Side 1): "Change your hearts and lives! Here comes the kingdom of heaven!"**

(Reader): He was the one of whom Isaiah the prophet spoke when he said: The voice of one shouting in the wilderness,

**(Side 2): "Prepare the way for the Lord; make his paths straight."**

(Reader): John wore clothes made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. People from Jerusalem, throughout Judea, and all around the Jordan River came to him. As they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River. Many Pharisees and Sadducees came to be baptized by John. He said to them, "You children of snakes! Who warned you to escape from the angry judgment that is coming soon? Produce fruit that shows you have changed your hearts and lives. And don't even think

about saying to yourselves, Abraham is our father. I tell you that God is able to raise up Abraham's children from these stones. The ax is already at the root of the trees.

**(Side 1): Therefore, every tree that doesn't produce good fruit will be chopped down and tossed into the fire. I baptize with water those of you who have changed your hearts and lives.**

**(Side 2): The one who is coming after me is stronger than I am. I'm not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.**

(Reader): The shovel he uses to sift the wheat from the husks is in his hands. He will clean out his threshing area and bring the wheat into his barn. But he will burn the husks with a fire that can't be put out."

(Reader): Stay tuned for the continuing saga that is our story and God's story.

**(ALL): Thanks be to God.**

Special Music Voices of Hope Choir  
"From God's Heart" by Hans Peterson

Sermon – Pastor Hans Peterson

Song of the Day – "Right by the Water"



# RIGHT BY THE WATER

Hans Peterson

*With a gospel feel (swing 8th notes)*

**Refrain**

C/E F G C Dm7

You are a tree right by the wa-ter with roots that came

G C C/E F G C

from a small seed. Drink deep from the source, sons and daugh-ters.

A7 G/B A/C# Dm7 C/E F G7 C F C/E Dm7 C

Bear fruit, reach for who you can be.

**Verse**

G7 Dm7 G C F

Come one and all, lost, lone - ly, poor. Blest are you;  
 Christ stands be - side, calls out your name: "I am with  
 The riv - er brings a proph - et's dream: "Let jus - tice

E Am Am/G F G

God's realm is yours. All hun - gry souls you  
 you in your pain." May liv - ing wa - ters  
 flow like a stream." Love has come so

C A7 Dm7 C/E F G C to Refrain

will be fed. All you who weep will laugh in - stead.  
 make you whole. May you find peace for your soul.  
 all may live. In - spir - ed we joy - ful - ly give.

## Prayers for the World

*Together we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.*

*Each petition will close with the words: God of Life*


*And you are invited to respond: **Hear our prayer***

## Offering

**Worship Leader:** *Thank you for your continued generosity and for all the ways you support God's ministry here at River of Hope. You can contact the church office and sign up for simply giving or give online or drop a check off at the church office.*

## Offering Song – "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

# Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;  
 2 The watch-ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride-groom near;  
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,  
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

the eve-ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
 go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.  
 shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.  
 a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night-ed sphere.

The bride-groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.  
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.  
 A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;  
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.  
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride-groom is at hand.  
 in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.  
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907  
 Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

# The Feast

Setting the Table *the children lead us as we sing together:*

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies. For the love  
which from our birth, over and around us lies, over and around us lies.  
Lord of all to thee we raise; This, our hymn of grateful praise.

## Thanksgiving at the Table

As we gather in this place, we remember, that in the night when Jesus  
was betrayed by his best friends, he took bread. He blessed it and  
broke it and gave it to these same friends saying, "Take and eat. This is  
my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup, blessed it and gave it for all to drink  
saying, "This is the new covenant, the new promise, for the forgiveness  
of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me." Lord, remember us in your  
kingdom and teach us to pray:

## The Lord's Prayer

*We pray our common prayer that Christ taught us.*

**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.**

This is Christ's table. It's a table of love and welcome. It's a table of fellowship with the poor and communion with the earth.

So, come, those of you with great faith and those of you who wish you had more. Come, those of you who have tried to follow Jesus and those of you who have failed. Come, those of you who depend on this meal for your lives, and those of you for whom it is a strange thing. These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion Song: "Christ, Be Our Light" and "Prepare the Royal Highway"

# Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



*Refrain*  
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

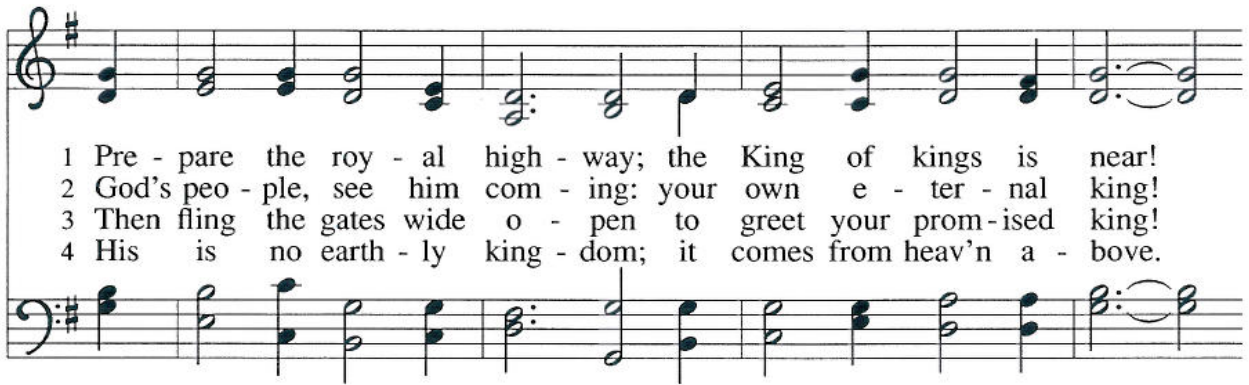
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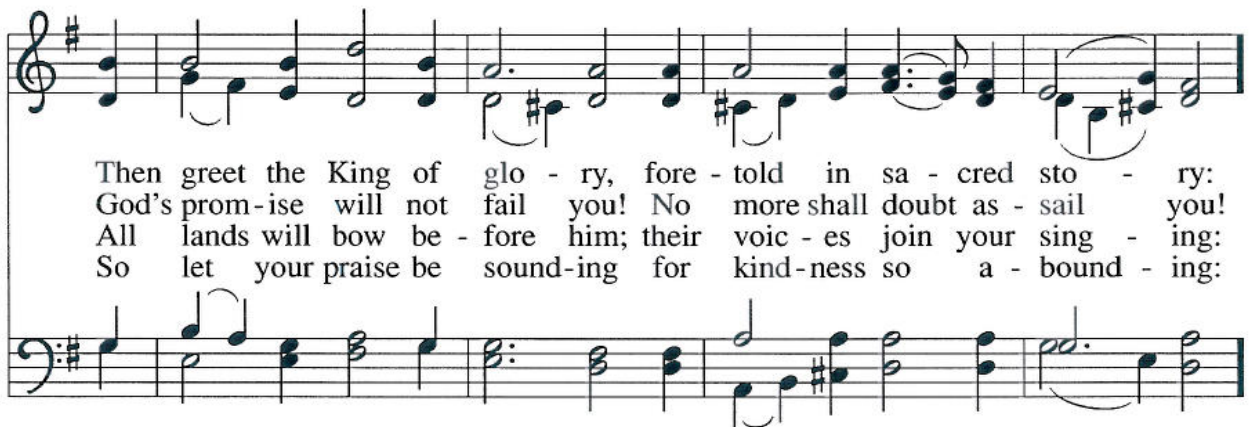
# Prepare the Royal Highway



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!  
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!  
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!  
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
Palm branch-es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



*Refrain*  
Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.  
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## Blessing after Communion

Now may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you and keep you in his peace. **Amen.**

## Prayer after Communion

God of the abundant table,  
you have refreshed our hearts in this meal  
with bread for the journey.  
Give us your grace on the road  
that we might serve our neighbors with joy;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**Amen.**

# The Sending

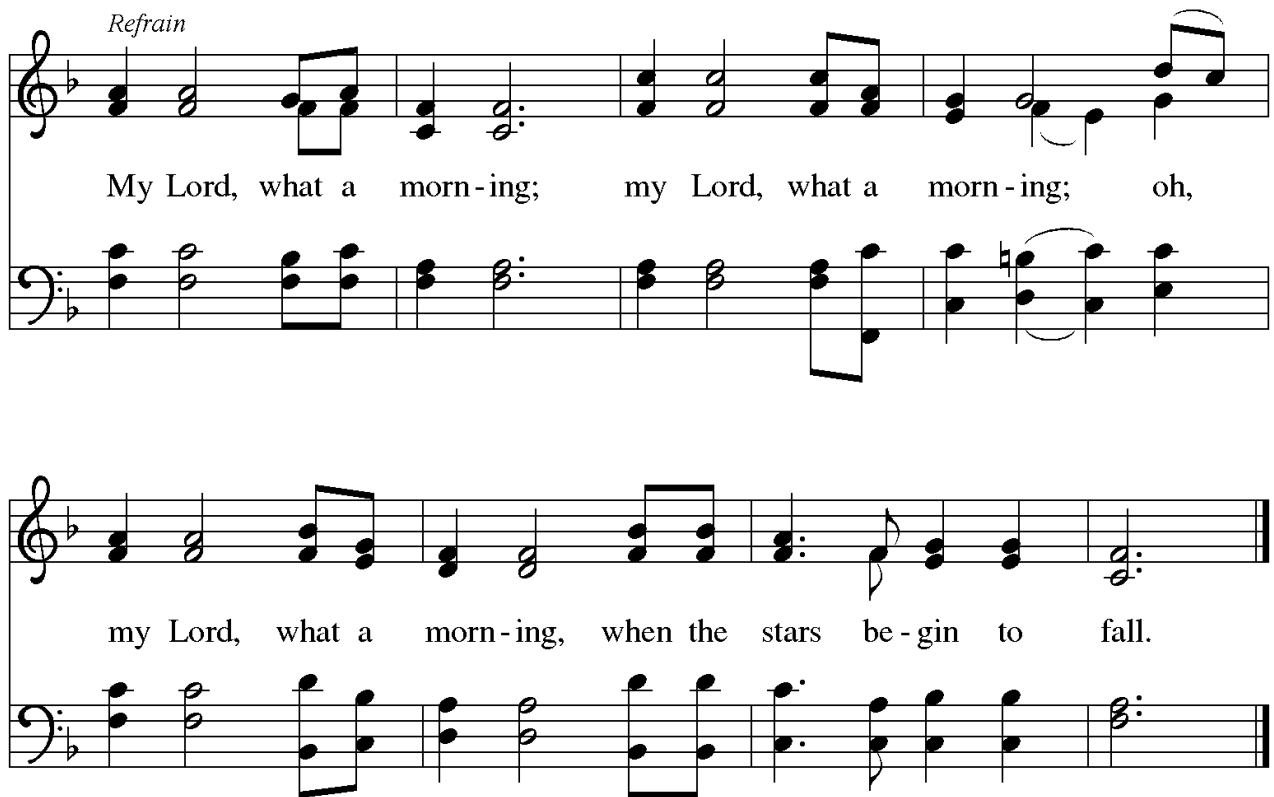
Why does our church exist? What is our purpose?  
**We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.**

Purpose Sightings:

MILESTONES! – “My Lord, What a Morning” refrain  
*It's time for sharing milestones - a time where we join together as a  
community to share the big, small, good, and hard milestones in our  
life.*

# My Lord, What a Morning

*Refrain*



My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn-ing; oh,

my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be-gin to fall.

## A Franciscan Benediction

May God bless us with discomfort

At easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships

So that we may live from deep within our hearts.

May God bless us with anger

At injustice, oppression, and exploitation of God's creations

So that we may work for justice, freedom, and peace.

May God bless us with tears

To shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger, and war,

So that we may reach out our hands to comfort them and

To turn their pain into joy.

And may God bless us with just enough foolishness

To believe that we can make a difference in the world,

So that we can do what others claim cannot be done:

To bring justice and kindness to all our children and all our neighbors who are poor.

**Amen.**

Sending Song: "He Came Down"

# He Came Down

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;  
 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;  
 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;  
 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;  
 he came down that we may have light;  
 he came down that we may have peace; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er - more.  
 he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949

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Go in peace – serve the Lord! Thanks be to God

## Music to Send You Out

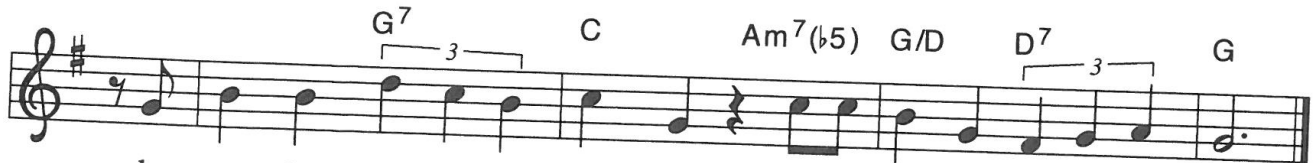
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# He Came Down

253



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;  
 he came down that we may have light;  
 he came down that we may have peace; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.  
 he came down that we may have joy;

Am<sup>7</sup>(b5)



Text: Cameroon traditional  
 Music: Cameroon traditional

HE CAME DOWN

