

1st Sunday of Advent

November 26, 2023



www.riverofhopehutchinson.org

Worship on Facebook Premiere, Sundays at 10:30am

Gathering

Prelude

Opening Song – “Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”

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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Welcome * Welcome Pads * Post it Notes *

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.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

God Emmanuel, God-with-us, yet we still pray for you to come.
 Stir up your power and come.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Lead us out of the fire and into life in you.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Lead us into new life in you.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Show us the way back to the beginning we have in you.

Come, Lord Jesus.

In this season of waiting, come, creep into our hearts and prepare them for you.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Amen.

Song: *He Came Down (Vs. 1)*

As the congregation sings, the first candle on the Advent Wreath is lit.

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; hal-le - lu - jah for-ev - er - more.
 he came down that we may have peace;
 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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Greet Someone New

Music to Bring Us Back Together: Vs 1 of "He Came Down"

Children's Time

THE STORY

(Reader): Our story and God's story continues today with a reading from 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9.

Isaiah 40:8

PREPARE THE WAY

Hans Peterson

(guitar: capo 2)

E(D) E/G#(D/F#) Bsus(Asus)
Pre - pare the way, pre -

E(D) E/G#(D/F#) Bsus4(Asus) E(D) E/G#(D/F#) Bsus(Asus)
pare the way, pre - pare the way of the Lord.

Asus2(G) E(D) A(G)
The grass it with - ers and the

C#m(Bm) Bsus(Asus) B(A) E(D) E/G#(D/F#) A(G)
flow - ers fall but the word of our Lord stands for -

Bsus(Asus) B(A) E(D) E/G#(D/F#) Bsus(Asus)
ev - er. Pre - pare the way, pre -

E E/G# Bsus4 E E/G# Bsus4
pare the way, pre - pare the way of the Lord.

Asus2(G) E/B(D) B(A) E(D)

(Reader): May all the gifts and benefits that come from God our Father, and the Master, Jesus Christ, be yours. Every time I think of you—and I think of you often!—I thank God for your lives of free and open access to God, given by Jesus. There's no end to what has happened in you—it's beyond speech, beyond knowledge. The evidence of Christ has been clearly verified in your lives.

(Side 1): Just think—you don't need a thing, you've got it all!

(Reader): All God's gifts are right in front of you as you wait expectantly for our Master Jesus to arrive on the scene for the Finale.

(Side 2): And not only that, but God himself is right alongside to keep you steady and on track until things are all wrapped up by Jesus.

(Reader): God, who got you started in this spiritual adventure, shares with us the life of his Son and our Master Jesus.

(ALL): He will never give up on you. Never forget that.

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

(ALL): Thanks be to God.

Voices of Hope Choir – “Sing Praise to God”

Sermon – Pastor Hans Peterson

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, who is mercy:

*Congregational response: “**Hear our prayer.**”*

Offering

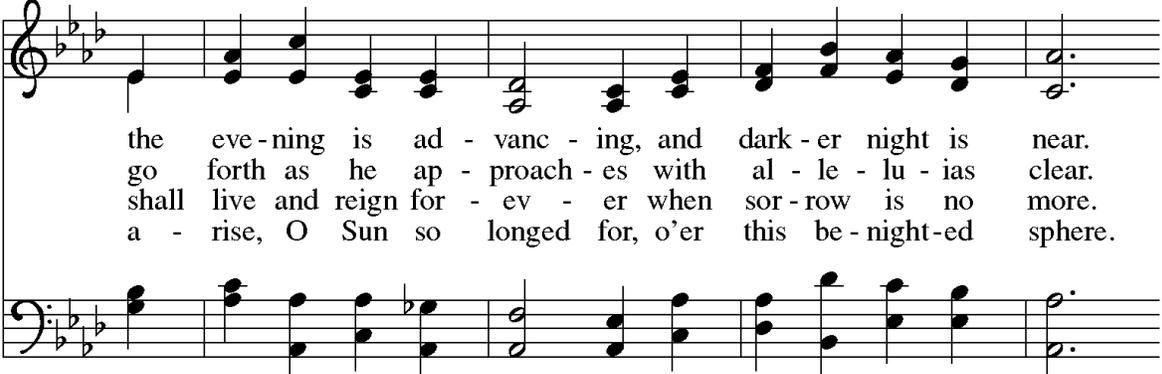
Worship Leader: *Thank you for your continued generosity and for all the ways you support God's ministry here at River of Hope. You can contact the church office and sign up for simply giving or give online or drop a check off at the church office. The watering can this month is for Operation Hope.*

Offering Song – “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

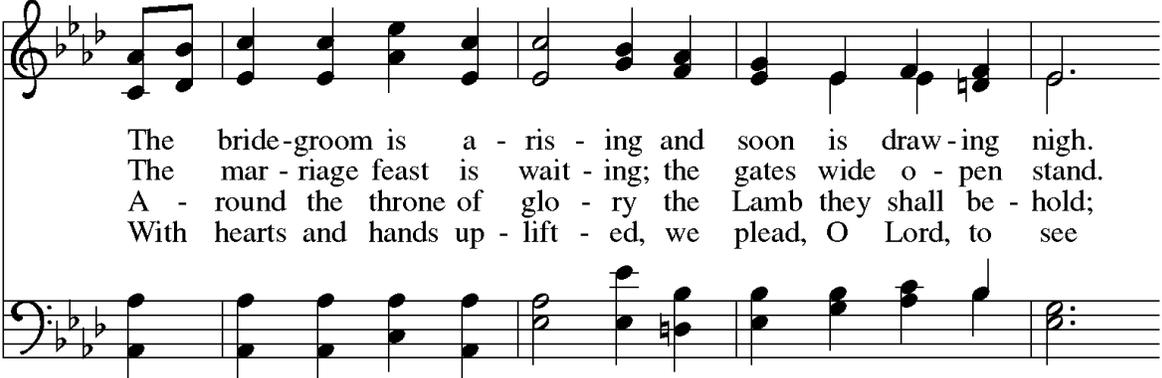
Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



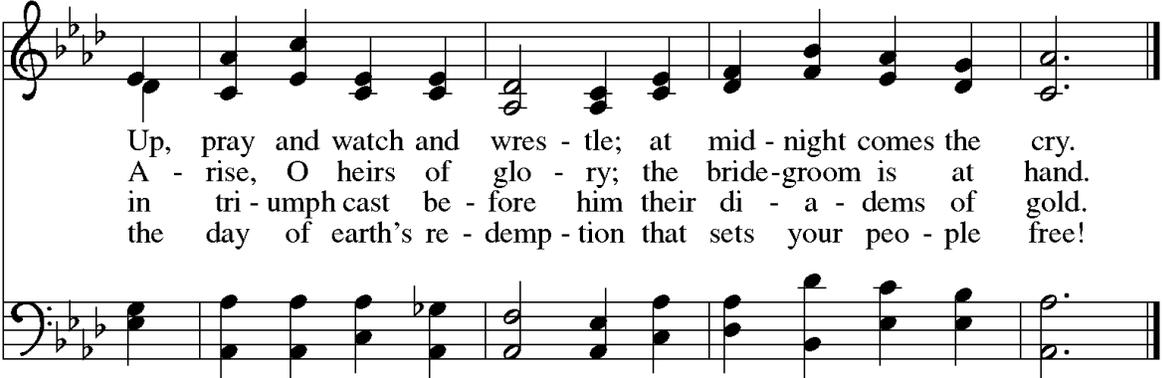
1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



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!

The Feast

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

O Come Lord Jesus be our Guest and let these gifts to us be blest. All praise to God who is our bread, may all the world be clothed and fed.

Thanksgiving at the Table

We gather as a community, around this table of plenty, trusting in the Spirit to nourish us as we share God's love with our neighbors.

The Lord is 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 God thanks and praise.

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."

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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. Forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us.
 Lead us not into temptation
 but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power,
 and the glory
 forever and forever. 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.

(Leader): The gifts of God are...

(ALL): Free

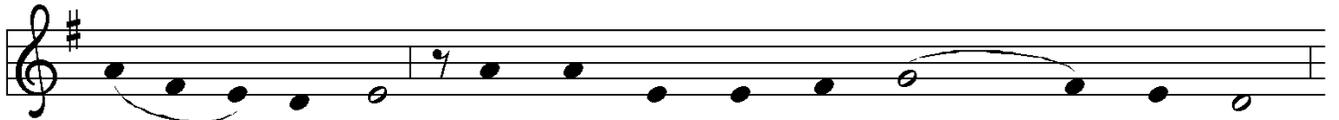
(Leader): Free indeed. And all are welcome to receive the sacrament.

Communion Songs "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel", "Love Divine; All Loves Excelling"

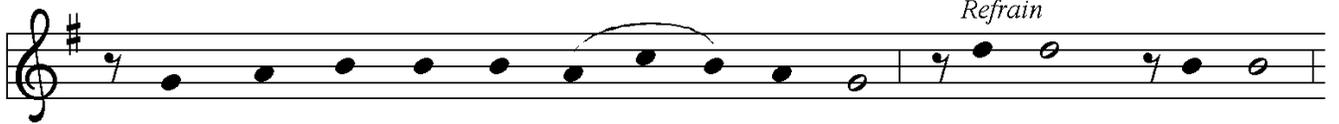
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

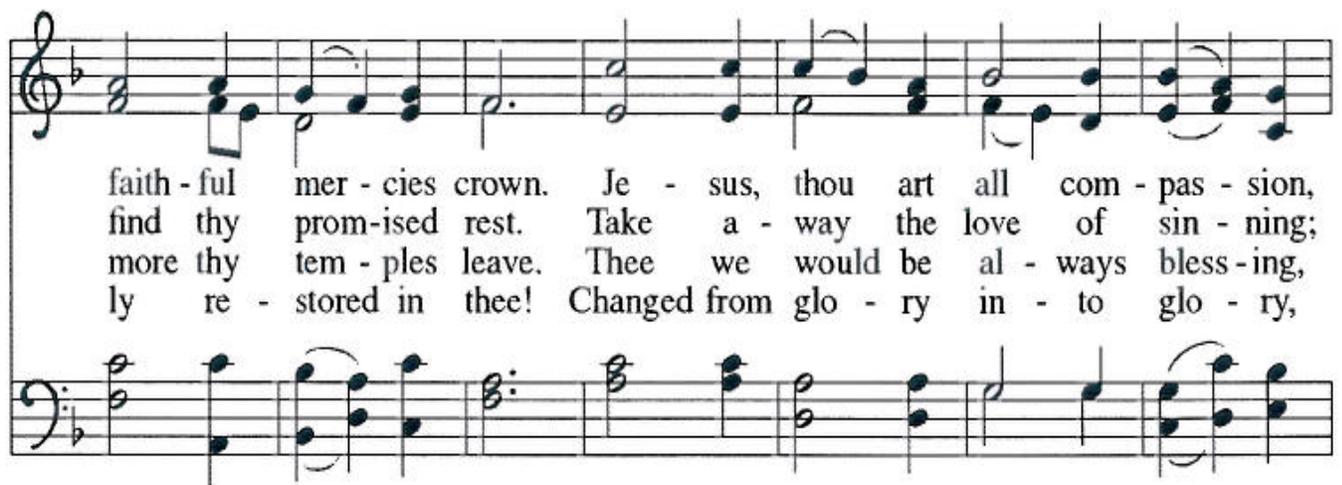
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788
 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887

Blessing after Communion

Now may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen

The Sending

Why does our church exist? What is our purpose?

We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

Purpose Sightings:

MILESTONES! Sing "Light of the World" verse 1

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.

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Cathy Pino

E^b A^b E^b A^b E^b

You are the light _____ of the world. _____
 You are a cit - y on a hill. _____
 You are a can - dle in the dark. _____

You are the light
 You are a cit -
 You are a can _____

6 A^b B^bsus4 B^b E^b A^b

_____ of the world _____ so shine, shine,
 - y on a hill _____ so shine, shine,
 - dle in the dark _____ so shine, shine,

11 E^b B^b/D C^m E^b A^b E^b A^b

shine where you are. _____ You are the light _____ of the world. _____
 shine where you are. _____ You are a cit - y on a hill. _____
 shine where you are. _____ You are a can - dle in the dark. _____

Sung Benediction

Sending Song: "Soon and Very Soon"

Soon and Very Soon



1 Soon and ver - y soon
 2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
 3 No more dy - in' there,
 4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
 no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
 no more dy - in' there,
 soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
 no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
 no more dy - in' there,
 soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

Coda after stanza 4



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

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

Music to Send You Out

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