

November 27, 2022

Welcome

Call to Worship

We gather here in anticipation,  
seeking an encounter with our Holy God,  
who comes among us when we least expect it,  
who invites us to wrestle with our questions and doubts,  
who richly blesses us,  
and calls us each by name.  
Let's worship God together!

**\*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

\*God's Greeting

\*Greet Each Other

**\*Sing we the Song of Emmanuel**

*Candle Lighting - see liturgy at bottom*

**My Soul Cries Out (Verse 1)**

Confession

Lord Jesus, the longing of your heart is to be in relationship with us, each of us. We recognize that often our relationship with you is messy and complicated. We long to embrace your truth, your promises, but often we find ourselves wrestling with you, wrestling with questions, with doubts. Forgive us Father, for times in which we lack the faith to believe in your goodness, in your faithfulness, and the truth that you are God over all, including the events surrounding our life.

Assurance

The good news of Advent is that you are a wrestling God. You welcome our questions of struggle and doubt. Your mercy and grace are sufficient in accepting all of us which includes questions of who you are. Thank you for embracing us just as we are, for accepting the questions, the doubts and for allowing us to wonder about them.

**We thank you for not abandoning us to our questions and our doubts. During this Advent season we wait longingly and expectantly. We wait hopefully for Your kingdom to come. God is with us.**

Communion

**O Come O Come Emmanuel**

**All Things New**

Children's Blessing

Scripture Reading      Numbers 13:7-14:4

Sermon                      Wandering and Wondering

**\*Hope for Everyone**

Congregational Prayer

Offering

**Noel**

\*God's Parting Blessing

**\*Joy to the World**

Week 1: Candle of Hope

Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no city in which to dwell (from Ps. 107:4)

**In the middle of our wanderings we declare  
God comes to bring us hope**

To the lonely, young and old, God comes with a message of hope. In coming to us, God declares that you are never alone. God loves you with an everlasting love.

Jeremiah 31:3-6 says:

**3** The Lord appeared to us in the past, <sup>a</sup> saying:

"I have loved you with an everlasting love;  
I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.

**4** I will build you up again,  
and you, Virgin Israel, will be rebuilt.  
Again you will take up your timbrels  
and go out to dance with the joyful.

**5** Again you will plant vineyards  
on the hills of Samaria;  
the farmers will plant them  
and enjoy their fruit.

**6** There will be a day when watchmen cry out  
on the hills of Ephraim,  
'Come, let us go up to Zion,  
to the Lord our God.' "

As we light the candle of hope, may we remember and believe that God is our dwelling and he calls us to live in community with one another.