

**Order of Worship**  
**December 13, 2020**  
**9:00 a.m.**

PRELUDE *Coventry Carol/Away in a Manger* Greg Daniels

GREETING/PASSING THE PEACE Rev. Brittany Watson

OPENING SONG *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Haley Jones

CHILDREN'S TIME Tammy Felder

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES Beth Quarels & Justin Beggs

**Reader One:** We want everything to look nice: the decorations of the season, our homes with their lights and tinsel, wreaths and ribbons. We want to lighten the darkness around us, bring beauty to the ugliness that wears us down. We decorate, because it is tradition. Because it lifts our hearts. Because it makes us feel like children again. We deck our halls because company is coming.

**Reader Two:** The prophet Isaiah smiled when he said, "God will give a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit." No matter how far we feel from the spirit of the season, God promises to decorate us with love and with joy.

**Reader One:** We light these candles as a sign of our joy in the beautiful things of this season – not just the things that glitter and flash, but the deeper things, the beauty of the heart and the soul, the beauty of love shared in service and hospitality. We light this candle of joy because company is coming.

*(The third candle is lighted.)*

**Reader Two:** O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Donna Hankins

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.**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 1: 1-17

Louisa Utley

SERMON

All the Earth is Waiting

Rev. David C. Freeman

OFFERTORY

*O Holy Night*

Jonathan & Liam Hankins-Hull

ADVENT PRAYER

Joe & Stacy Clark

**The Advent story of hope and mystery, anticipation, preparation, a kingdom of this world and the next, and a king appearing when we least expect. Heaven touching earth, the footsteps of the divine walking dusty roads as once they did in Eden, and a people, searching for a Savior, and walking past the stable. Open eyes and hearts, that this might be an Advent of hope to the world.**

CLOSING SONG

*Who at My Door is Standing?*

BENEDICTION

Rev. Brittany Watson