



December 3, 2023

Hope

Isaiah 64:1-9, Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Mark 13:24-37

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

Order of Worship 10 a.m.

Gathering

Prelude: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Words of Welcome

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

Gathering Song:

Lead Us to Your Light (vs.1)

Announcements / † Mission Statement / Pass the Peace

Dan Loven-Crum

Advent Wreath Lighting

Boyd Family

† Hymn #128 (vs.1):

One Candle is Lit

Hearing God's Word

Children's Moment

Rebecca Morello

Scripture:

Isaiah 64:1-9. Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Pam Kregg

Message & Scripture:

Mark 13:24-37

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

Musical Reflection: *Walk in Light* - Karen Marroli

Responding to God's Word

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

The Basket

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

Communion

Rev. Sarah Rentzel-Jones

Musical Meditation: *Do You Hear What I Hear* - Gloria Shayne

† Hymn #119 (vs.1-2): *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Countryside Blessing

Kyle Barchus

Postlude:

(There's No Place Like) Home for the Holidays - Al Stillman / Robert Allen

OUR WORSHIP HAS CONCLUDED.

NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS.

† Indicates those places where those who are able
are invited to stand.

Who We Are

We are an inclusive, open and affirming family of faith,
welcoming all to God's table of love and acceptance.

We are diverse, yet united by Christ's example.

We care for one another, support one another and
challenge one another to become all that God creates us to be.

We work together to nurture our community and
to promote peace, equality and justice in our conflicted world.

C4 Choir - Adam Witte, director

Julia Olynyk, vocals - Matt Wallace, sax - Rick Avard, piano

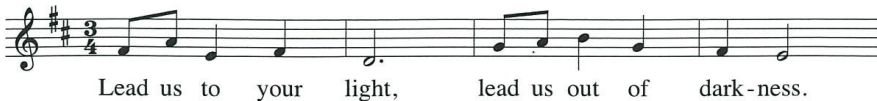
Alex Ritter, organ - Carlos Figueroa, drums - Steve Gomez, bass

Sunday Flowers This Week

Flowers were given today by De Schmierer
in memory of Ron and their parents.

Lead Us to Your Light

Refrain



Lead us to your light, lead us out of dark-ness.



Lead us to your light. Come, Je - sus, come.

Verses



1. Lord, we a - wait your com - ing to our world;
2. Lord, you are hope and heal - ing for our world;
3. Come, O come, O come, Em - man - u - el.
4. Rouse us from sleep, wake us from our slum - ber,
5. Child of the light and love be - yond all tell - ing,



bring us the gift of sal - va - tion.
come, now, and bring us your good news.
Come with us on earth here to dwell.
ban - ish the dark - ness of night.
fill our hearts with won - der and praise.

Joys and Concerns

Join us as we pray for our congregation members and their loved ones who are on our Joys and Concerns list every week on Thursdays at 9 a.m. in the Sanctuary. If you have someone who would benefit from prayer, want to share a joy or be included on the bulletin list and /or on Countryside's Prayer Chain, contact Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones at 402-391-0350, ext. 225 or sarahrj@countrysideucc.org

JOYS:

Please lift these joys with prayers of celebration and praise!

We are so excited to welcome our new Senior Minister, **Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas**, for her first Sunday in the pulpit today! This is certainly a great joy!

CONCERNS:

Please join in praying for the following new and ongoing concerns:

Please pray for **Christine Kasel**, our Director of Communications and Support Services, whose mother, Mary Vanderpool, died on Monday, Nov. 27. A service to celebrate Mary's life will be held at a later date.

Cynthia Pavey, sister of **Norm Pavey**, was admitted to Methodist Hospital on Wednesday with pneumonia. Please pray for her to receive the treatment needed to make her well, and for Norm as he continues to care for and support her.

The "O Antiphons" are a set of seven liturgical antiphons chanted or recited during Advent in the Christian tradition. Each antiphon focuses on a different title of the Messiah, drawn from the prophecies of the Old Testament. Each verse of the hymn O Come, O Come, Emmanuel is one of the antiphons. We will explore each throughout Advent, starting with the two we sing today:

"O Emmanuel" (O God with Us): The final antiphon celebrates the fulfillment of the messianic prophecies, declaring that God is with us in the person of Jesus Christ.

"O Oriens" (O Morningstar or O Dayspring): Rooted in the prophecy of Zechariah, this antiphon heralds Christ as the Dayspring, bringing light to those in darkness and guiding them on the path of peace.

"Do You Hear What I Hear" is a timeless Christmas carol that transcends the boundaries of seasonal music, inviting listeners into a narrative of hope and peace. The lyrics were written in 1962 by Noël Regney with music written by Gloria Shayne. The writers, married at the time, wrote it as a plea for peace during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Regney was conscripted into the Nazi army while living in occupied France, and defected to fight with the resistance. The horrors of war were all too familiar to him. His daughter cites this experience as the influence for the political and social statements made by the song: "He had to do some pretty hard things to get himself out of that," said Gabrielle Regney of her father's efforts to defect from the Nazi army. "Things that I think really scarred him." Regney's life story and the historical context in which "Do You Hear What I Hear" emerged adds layers of significance to its lyrics, and is a profound message wrapped in simple imagery.