

## Welcome & Announcements

### Lighting of the Advent candle – see Advent Insert

#### Call To Worship

L: On this first Sunday in Advent, let us hear the invitation of the prophet Isaiah;

**P: Come, let us go up to God's holy mountain, that we may learn to walk in all God's ways.**

L: On this first Sunday in Advent, we live in the Hope that God's ways will be known in us and among us in increasing measure.

**P: We live in the Hope that God will settle disputes between nations, and that swords and spears will be turned from weapons into instruments of healing.**

L: On this first Sunday in Advent, let us worship God with Hope in our hearts.

**P: On this and every day, let us worship God with Hope in our hearts.**

**Hymn #115: Hail to the Lord's Anointed** (vs 1, 3 & 4)

#### Prayer of Adoration, Confession and The Lord's Prayer

#### Words of Assurance and Hope

L: The good news of the Advent season is Hope for today and all our tomorrows;

**P: Hope that is grounded in the assurance of God's forgiveness and grace;**

L: Hope that is grounded in Jesus' loving ways of truth and justice.

**P: Hope that is grounded in the Spirit's life-giving presence and power.**

**Hymn #515: Out of deep, unordered water**

#### Baptism

#### Responsive Psalm 122

L: I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'

**P: Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

L: Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together.

**P: To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.**

L: For there the thrones for judgement were set up, the thrones of the house of David.

**P: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: 'May they prosper who love you.**

L: Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers.'

**P: For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, 'Peace be within you.'**

L: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

#### Scripture Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5 (NRSV)

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup>In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. <sup>3</sup>Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

#### Matthew 24:36-44 (NRSV)

'But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake

and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup> Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

Music Ministry

**Message: The Gift of Hope**

**Hymn #122: O come, O come Emmanuel** (vs 1, 2, 6 & 7)

**Communion**

**Invitation and Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

L: May the approaching God be with you!

**P: And also with you!**

L: Open your hearts to our God, dear friends.

**P: Our hearts are open, longing to be filled with grace and hope.**

L: People of God, give thanks to the One who draws near to us.

**P: We come to God's Table to offer our thanks and praise.**

L: You could no longer wait, Patient God... we sing our praises to you:

**P: Holy, holy, holy are you, God who approaches. All creation tingles with anticipation. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes to restore us. Hosanna in the highest!**

L: In this season of holiness you came, God of Advent.... we speak of that mystery called faith:

**P: In those days, after suffering, Jesus died;  
on that Day, you raised Christ to new life;  
in these days, we wait, not knowing but trusting in your future.**

**Post Communion Prayer**

L: God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of Life and the cup of Hope.

**P: May we be strengthened in Love so that we might serve you in serving others. In the name of Christ our Lord we pray, Amen**

Hymn 119 - Hope is a star

**Mission Moment**

**Doxology #79: Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow**

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Prayers of the People**

Hymn #118: O hark the glad sound

**Benediction and Benediction song: Go Now In Peace**

**Welcome To Lucknow  
Presbyterian Church  
December 3, 2023  
First Sunday of Advent**



**Worship Leader: Rev. Kathy Fraser**

**Announcements**

- Welcome to all who are worshiping with us. Thanks to Rev. Kathy for leading the service this morning.
- Pinecrest service TODAY at 2pm. All welcome.
- Wed., Dec. 6 at 7 pm: Carolfest at Kingsbridge Centre
- Thurs. Dec.7: Flame n' Bricks Pizza fundraiser for Messy Church Day camp from 4:30-6:30pm
- Soup & Bun lunch (with dessert) Wed Dec 13 11:30-1:00pm at church
- See December Newsletter for more information

**Upcoming Services:**

- Dec. 10: Children's program **10:00am** (note change in time) – lunch to follow
- Dec. 17: service led by Annette Proconier
- Dec. 24 at 7 pm: Combined Christmas Eve service at Lucknow PC led by Mary Jane Bisset (**no morning service**)
- Dec. 31 at 10 am: combined service at South Kinloss PC led by Annette Proconier