



**Mountain Shadows**  
**Presbyterian Church**

Centered in Christ, Caring for Community

**December 3, 2017 10:00AM**  
**The First Sunday in Advent**  
**Celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Gather in God's Name**

*Thank you for silencing all mobile phones. \* Stand as you are able. Please sign the fellowship pad, found on the chair on the center aisle. When all have signed, pass the pad back to the center.*

**Prelude**

*Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Arr. Mark Hayes

*The Prelude will begin at 10:00. Worshipers are requested to conclude conversation and listen prayerfully as spiritual preparation to hear God's Word in worship.*

**Opening Prayer**

**Welcome, Announcements, Introductions of Guests and Visitors**

**Learning a New Song:** Hymn 90, refrain: *Wait for the Lord*

**Call to Worship and the Lighting of the First Advent Candle**

(responsive, based on Isaiah 64 and Psalm 80)

**Worship Co-Leader:** Allison Townsend

If only God would tear open the heavens and come down!

**Mountains would quake before the Lord**

**like fire igniting brushwood or making water boil.**

If God's name were made known,

nations would tremble in the Holy One's presence.

**From ancient times, no one has heard,**

**no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any god**

**but the Holy One who acts on behalf of those who wait.**

*(The first Advent candle is lit.)*

We have lit the candle of our yearning.

**Restore us, God Almighty;**

**make your face shine on us, so that we may be saved. Amen.**

**\*Hymn #95**

*Prepare the Way of the Lord (sing three times)*

**Call to Confession** (adapted from 1 Corinthians 1:5-7)

God has enriched us in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge.

We do not lack any spiritual gift as we eagerly wait

for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. Let us pray.

## Prayer of Confession (unison)

O God, as this Holy Advent begins, and we anticipate festivities and gifts, we admit: we already have more than we need, while others go hungry and struggle for the basics. Forgive us for neglecting to challenge injustice that violates your vision of equity for all. Make us uneasy with unfair advantages, and lead us into the joy that Jesus knew when he honored the poor and poured out your love for the world.

Help us to recognize our need for the life that wealth and power cannot give us.

Awaken us, we pray, to our longing for you, our God.

*(Please pause to offer a silent prayer.)*

Keep us awake, O God.

Help us resist the lulling effects of seasonal overabundance.

Alert us to the emptiness within us that only you can fill.

Prompt us to seek contentment by serving others

in the way of Jesus Christ, for whom we wait. Amen.

*(Quiet prayer and reflection)*

## Sung Response for Advent

Tune: 90, Wait for the Lord (refrain)

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

## Words of Assurance (responsive, 1 Corinthians 1:8-9)

God will strengthen us to the end,  
so that we may be blameless on the day of our Lord.

**God is faithful!**

**By God we are called into the fellowship of Jesus Christ. Amen!**

## \*Sung Response

Tune: 2276

Glory to God in the highest!

Sing glory to God!

Glory to God in the highest,

and peace to God's people on earth!

## \*The Passing of Christ's Peace

The peace of Jesus Christ be with you...and also with you.

*You may turn to your neighbor and share a sign of Christ's peace.*

## Choir Anthem

*Advent Grace*

Arr. Lloyd Larson

Mountain Shadows Choir

## Proclaim God's Word

### Gospel Reading

Psalm 80: 1-7 and 17-19

(O.T. pg 511; lg. print pg.665)

### Response

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

A Prayer of Longing

Rev. Rachel Srubas

### \*Hymn #470

*There Is a Longing in Our Hearts*

## Respond to God

### Invitation to the Offering and the Sharing of Written Joys and Concerns

God continues to shape us each day into a people of goodness and peace.

This is why we bring gifts this morning: to work toward a more beautiful world through the ministry of this church and the witness of our daily lives.

Let us gather our gifts together and present them as an offering to God.

*(Today, joys and concerns will be expressed in writing and placed in the offering plates. Pastor Rachel Srubas and Deacons will lift up requested prayers during the coming week.)*

The Offertory

*Jesus Knows the Inmost Heart*

Arr. Geoff Weaver

### \*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise Christ, all people here below.**

**Praise Holy Spirit evermore.**

**One God, triune, whom we adore! Amen.**

### \*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Jesus' love often comes into our lives in quiet, unexpected ways.

O God, we respond to Christ's compassion

and commit ourselves to living in a manner worthy of him.

Looking forward to his arrival, we offer you these gifts. Amen.

## Give Thanks to God

### The Invitation to the Table

### The Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right to remember your saving work, O God—  
how you said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

**Your Word is the light that shines in the darkness.**

**Jesus is the light of the world.**

Heaven and earth will pass away,  
but Jesus' words will never pass away.

**We hunger for the everlasting truth Jesus offers.**

**We thirst for the life that comes from him.**

Surely he is near, at the very gates of our hearts.

Let us honor and glorify him with our song.

**Communion Song for Advent**

Tune: 88 Veni Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**The Communion Prayer and 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 debts as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

**The Words of Institution**

**The Sharing of the Sacrament by Intinction**

*Please come forward to be served. Those unable to come forward will be served in their seats.  
Gluten-free bread is available in the center of the tray.*

**Prayer after Communion (unison)**

By the bread that Jesus said was his body,  
by the wine of your promise to save all Creation,  
O God, you have restored us, and we thank you.  
We are strengthened for the work of waiting,  
fortified to stay watchful and faithful to you,  
until Christ comes to earth in great power and glory. Amen.

**Go in God's Name**

**\*Hymn #74**

*When God Restored Our Common Life*

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

*Come, O Long Expected Jesus*

Arr. M Burkhardt

The Worship has ended. The Service begins.