

**First Sunday of Advent  
December 1, 2024**

**Prelude**

Nenad Ivočić

**Welcome**

Rev. Janice Touloukian

**Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: O, come, Emmanuel, bind all people in one heart and mind;

**People: God of promise, thank you for calling us in hope as we lean upon your faithfulness.**

**All: Come precious Lord, come, and reveal your everlasting truth and grace. Fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Amen.**

**Lighting the Advent Candle of Hope**

The Costa Family

**Kids' Church** Children are welcome to meet in the entrance area of the sanctuary for Kids Church in the Parish House.

Nicole Giannetta  
& Anna Haep

**\*Gathering Hymn**     *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*             #110 Red Hymnal

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

*[Refrain]* Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. *[Refrain]*

O come, thou wisdom from on high, and order all things, far and nigh;  
to us the path of knowledge show, and cause us in her ways to go. *[Refrain]*

O come, desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. *[Refrain]* Amen.

**\*Passing the Peace**

**Scripture**     *Luke 21:25-36* (pg. 915 in your pew Bible)

Rev. JaQuan Beachem

**Sermon**     *The Wonder of Hope*

**\*Hymn**             *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty*             #251 Red Hymnal

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;  
holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty; God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see;  
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love and purity!

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;  
holy, holy holy! Merciful and mighty; God in three persons, blessed Trinity! Amen.

## Service of Prayer

Joys and Concerns / Prayers of the People  
Pastoral Prayer and Silent Prayer  
Lord's Prayer (debts)

## Offering

Call to Offering

Musical Offering    *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*    Arr. Jay Rouse

Sarah Jane Compton

\*Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; (or) Praise God, from Whom All blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise God for all that love has done;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost;

Praise Creator, Christ, and Spirit One

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Closing Hymn    *Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates*    #117 Black Hymnal

Lift up your heads, O mighty gates; behold the glorious Ruler waits!

The Sovereign One is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart.  
from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to you; here, Christ, abide!

Let me your inner presence feel; your grace and love in me reveal.

So come, my Sovereign; enter in! Let new and nobler life begin;  
your Holy Spirit guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.

## Benediction

## Threefold Amen

## Postlude

\*Please rise in body or in spirit.

## Christmas Trimming Bee & Wreath-Making

**Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM**

**First Church of Christ Woodbridge**

You are cordially invited to make a wreath, or learn to make a wreath, which will decorate the church during the Christmas season. Fresh greens, wire frames, wire, and bows will be provided. **Please bring your own gloves and hand garden clippers/pruners.** Families with children are invited to hang artificial wreaths and place electric candles on each window in the sanctuary. Guidance will be provided.

The outside Christmas tree will light at dusk.

Deck the Halls!!





## Poinsettia Orders



In this advent season we are taking orders for poinsettias to fill our sanctuary for Christmas. The poinsettias are \$16 each. You can find order forms in the Parish House and the Sanctuary. Please submit your orders and checks to the office before December 13th!



*Holiday Family Fun*  
Sat, Dec. 14 at 10:30 -12 noon  
Parish House  
5 Meetinghouse Lane,  
Woodbridge CT

*Sing Along* with Michele Urban  
Make Gingerbread Houses  
Cookie Decorating  
Craft Ornaments



Contact 203-936-9356



**First Church of Christ Woodbridge**  
*All are Welcome*

**Christmas Eve 2024**  
**All Ages Worship Service**  
**3:30pm**

Our 2024 Christmas Offering will go to **Woodbridge Human Services** to provide food and fuel to Woodbridge families in need.