

Tryon United Methodist Church

11:00 A.M. Worship

First Sunday of Advent
Sunday of Hope

December 1, 2024

Let the chiming of the hour be the signal for that reverent silence which is the beginning of worship.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Pam McNeil, organ

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Steve Porter

PRELUDE

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Pam McNeil, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP

Advent (UMH 201)

Rev. Lynnette Sills

Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. **Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may celebrate aright the commemoration of the nativity, and may await with joy the coming in glory of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER (*The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024*)

Rev. Lynnette Sills

God of every season, as we begin our journey through Advent, turn our hearts toward you. Guide us into your realm of peace and joy. **Teach us to set aside our worries, as we walk in faithfulness and trust. May the love within us be born anew. Help us remain alert, that we may respond to pain and suffering, and notice the signs of abundant life all around us. Come Lord Jesus, come to us now, we pray. Amen.**

HANGING OF THE GREENS: THE TRADITIONS WE HOLD DEAR
(*See insert*)

Rev. Lynnette Sills and Congregation

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: HOPE (*See insert*)

Steve Porter & Congregation

*HYMN

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

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PSALTER

Psalms 25: 1-3 (UMH 756)

Steve Porter

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust, let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.

Let none that wait for you be put to shame;

Let them be ashamed who are clothed with treachery.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord;

teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth, and teach me,

For you are the God of my Salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Affirmation of Faith: A Modern Affirmation (UMH 885)

Steve Porter

Where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is the one true church, apostolic and universal,
whose holy faith let us now declare:

We believe in God the Father,

infinite in wisdom, power, and love,

whose mercy is over all his works,

and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Son of man,
the gift of the Father's unfailing grace,
the ground of our hope,
and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit
as the divine presence in our lives,
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance
of the truth of Christ,
and find strength and help in time of need.**

**We believe that this faith should manifest itself
in the service of love,
as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord
to the end
that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.**

*GLORIA PATRI (UMH 70)

Congregation

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Lynnette Sills

We set aside this time for Children's Moment when we have children with us.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Lynnette Sills

Canticle of Mary (UMH 199)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

My spirit rejoices in God my Savior, who has looked with favor on me, a lowly servant.

From this day all generations shall call me blessed:

**The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is the name of the Lord,
whose mercy is on those who fear God from generation to generation.**

The arm of the Lord is strong, and has scattered the proud in their conceit.

God has cast down the mighty from their thrones and lifted up the lowly.

God has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich empty away.

**God has come to the aid of Israel, the chosen servant, remembering the promises of mercy,
the promise made to our forebears, to Abraham and his children forever.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Trespass*)

Rev. Lynnette Sills

**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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER (*The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024*)

Rev. Lynnette Sills

We thank you, God, for the joy we feel this day. We are blessed by this community of love, this sanctuary of acceptance. We place our trust in you, knowing that you care for us. **With deep gratitude for all you provide to us, we offer our gifts to you. Center our hearts during this season of giving. Amen.**

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

In Silence We Wait

Chancel Choir

DOXOLOGY

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Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 33:14-16; Luke 21:25-36 (NIV)

Steve Porter

(*Jeremiah 33:14-16*) ¹⁴“The days are coming,’ declares the LORD, ‘when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah. ¹⁵“In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line;

he will do what is just and right in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it^a will be called: The LORD Our Righteous Savior.’

(*Luke 21:25-36*) ⁵“There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. ²⁶ People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. ²⁷ At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” ²⁹ He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰ When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. ³¹ Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

³²“Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. ³⁴“Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵ For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

The Weary World Rejoices: Hope in the World

Rev. Lynnette Sills

BLESSING AND LIGHTING OF THE CHRISMON TREE (*See Insert*)

Rev. Lynnette Sills

*CLOSING HYMN

Hope of The World (v.1,2,3,4)

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*BENEDICTION (*The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024*)

Rev. Lynnette Sills

Be alert! God’s realm of love and peace is breaking in. **Set aside all worries and let joy be yours.**

God is with you. **We go with hope. Let us go in peace. Amen..**

POSTLUDE

Noel Nouvelet

Pam McNeil, organ

***Please stand as you are able.**

Cover page photograph: Aspen tree in Aspen, Colorado

Hangings of the Greens: The Traditions We Hold Dear

Pastor: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, the Wonderful Counselor?

People: We will fill our house with the ringing of bells and the sounds of music.

Pastor: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, the Prince of Peace?

People: We will fill our house with garlands and wreaths of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Pastor: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, the Son of God?

People: We will fill our house with candles that will give us light in the darkness. And we will set aside a special place to tell the story of the birth of our Savior.

Pastor: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, Everlasting Father?

People: We will fill our house with the words of the prophets that foretold the saving work of God.

Pastor: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the Son of Man?

People: We will fill our house with the beauty of the poinsettias and hang special ornaments from our tree. We will be reminded in this season that we await the joy of the birth of the One who was given as an act of love for the world.

Pastor: Gracious Creator God, your glory shines brighter than the sun.

People: We remember your compassion and your faithful love, as we come to worship this day.

Pastor: Lift up our souls to meet the challenges we face, as we seek to bear the fruit of your salvation.

People: May your righteous branch grow within our hearts that our lives may abound in mercy and steadfast love. Amen.

First Candle of Advent: The Candle of Shocking Hope

Liturgist: In the days of exile and uncertainty, the prophet Isaiah cried out:

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence. As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you. (Isaiah 64:1-3)

Pastor: In the midst of our own encounters with uncertainty and upheaval and our longing for deliverance, Jesus calls us, “Therefore, keep awake--for you do not know when the master of the house will come.” (Mark 13:35)

Congregation: We wait as people surprised again and again by God who shakes us out of our complacency and wakes us up to the work of the kingdom around us.

Liturgist: We light this candle as a sign of our shocking hope. May we stay awake to God’s activity in the world as we wait in expectation that even now God is with us, working to restore us to the fullness of life with God and one another. Amen.

Blessing of the Chrismon Tree

Pastor: Holy Lord, we come with joy to celebrate the birth of your Son,

People: who rescued us from the darkness of sin by making the cross a tree of life and light.

Pastor: May this tree, arrayed in splendor remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ.

People: that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines in our hearts. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

❖ **PRAYER LIST 12/1/2024**

- ❖ *–Pray for all who are dealing with devastation and loss after Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton. Pray for all of the helpers who are working to restore power and provide clothing, shelter and assistance.*
- ❖ *Continue to pray for the people of Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, and Haiti and all places experience conflicts and war. Pray for there to be peace and for war to cease. Pray for leaders to seek wisdom. Pray for an end to violence and bloodshed. Pray for all people in all nations to seek and to be instruments of peace.*
- ❖ *-Unspoken requests for our families and friends who may need prayer support, who are going through various life transitions, who have loved ones with physical or mental health issues, those in abusive relationships.*
- ❖ *- For those in need of treatment for depression/anxiety.*
- ❖ *- For those who grieve for loved ones who have passed.*
- ❖ *- Those who are in transition and contemplating lifestyle changes - moving, retiring, furthering their education.*
- ❖ *--Gratitude for the Comfort Shawl ladies who provide shawls for so many.*
- ❖ *-Prayers for families in domestic violence situations*
- ❖ *-Caregivers needing help caregiving and for all receiving health care treatment.*
- ❖ *--Caregivers of little children, adult children, parents and friends.*
- ❖ **Pray for:** Diane Aden & Family, Anna, Rockie Alexander, Judy Banks, Fred Beiers, Susan Berry, Clara Biswas & Family, Davis Blackwelder, Sabine Boots, Bill Bowman, Sam Bowman, Terrye Broyhill, Brandon, Franz, Eloise and Aidan Call, Margaret Cannon, Rhonda Carpenter, The Cashion Family, Cathy, Liz Chase, Jimmy Chatman, Michelle Chromey, Claire, Beth Cochran, Betty Cochran, Breanna Cochran, Pat Cowan, Judy Cruse, Dona Jean Dacey, Mark Dacey, Gordon & Karen Davidson, Tim & Cathy Dean, Tracie Dubek, Kathleen Edberg & Jim Schrader, Sandra Forney, Roy Greene & Family, Teresa Greene, Geneva Hargett, Jennifer & Percy Hargett, Ben Harvey, Leewyn Hatch, Debbie & Larry Hedgepath and family, Bobby Henson, Nancy Hiley, Charlotte Holly, Family of Charles Holly, Linda Hudgins, Bob Hudson, Hilda, Jason, Jane Jenkins, Charlie Jones, Julia and Chris, Juliet, Margaret Kell, Sarah Kim, Mike Kraft, Siri Larson, David Lawson, Sherrill Lawson, Family of Carol Lee, Sarah Lee, Sam Lilly and wife, Liz, Sandra Maier, Maria, Jan Markey, Dennis and Melony Martin, Maureen, Melissa, Jerry Miller, Ashley Mould, Betty Neal, Bob & Jo Oliver, Adam Palmer, David Palmer, Salley Parker, Alice Payne, Carie Perez, Bob Reynolds, Luke Rimel, Cathy Ruth, Stephen Sacks, Family of Jay Sealy, Charleigh Self, Cindy Shouck, Bonnie Stewart, Family of Mary Aden Stuch, Richard Tendam, Family of Blayne Turner, Bill Vehorn, John Vines, Wade, George Wallace, Linda Waters, Wendy, Hal Wishon & Kim Wishon, Kairos Prison Ministry,
- ❖ **Ministry Missionaries:** The Wollin Family (our missionary partners in Albania)
- ❖ **Long Term Prayer Needs** Mary Armitage, Donnie Andrews, Keith Andrews, Fred Beiers, Susan Bennett, John Bogwicz, Austin Bradley, Rick Campbell, Beth Cochran, Mary Count, Molly Forrester, Patty Gilleland and Mark Gilleland, Mary Glenn, Hazel Griffiths, Pat Hart, Mary Hartsoe, Noah Homan, Alice Logue, Nicole Meyers, Delinda Metcalf, Betty Milam, Christy O'Neill, June Palmer, Sherry Palmer, Erika Potter, Jim Steward, Annalise Strasel
- ❖ **UMC Armed Forces Prayer List:** Ruairidh (Rory Coull), Landon Farley, James Henson Jr., Kevin Mott, Harrison Turnage
- ❖ **Bulletin Announcement Deadlines:** If you would like to have an announcement placed in the bulletin, please send it to Pam McNeil by Wednesday at 12:00 p.m. each week. Bulletins are printed by 2:00 p.m. each Wednesday. Send to tumc1@tryonumc.net or lrj.sills52@gmail.com