

FIRST SUNDAY *of* ADVENT

Sunday, November 27, 2022

Watch live: <https://youtu.be/v46TlXluAn4>

PRELUDE

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming – arr. Diane Bish
Linda Sweetman Waters, Organ

LIGHTING *of the* ADVENT CANDLE ~ Francesca and Luke Feltmann

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Choir and Congregation

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

WELCOME *and* ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Bruce Ballantine

MINUTE *of* MINISTRY

Growth Committee ~ Sandy Santangelo

CALL *to* WORSHIP

Salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed;
the night is far gone, the day is near.
Let us worship God.

*HYMN 15 – *Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers*

PRAYER *of* CONFESSION

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule.

**We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives,
ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth,
and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us.**

**Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things
that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE *of* FORGIVENESS

*GLORIA PATRI – HYMN 579

*PASSING *of the* PEACE

ANTHEM

One Silent Star -Taras Nahirniak

The Chancel Choir

One silent star silvered the night. Lonely and watchful in its light, I thought. Could it be you see it too, the lonesome star. Does its light shatter the night where you are? Does its light shatter the night? And if we look together, though apart, will it not shine my message to your heart. One silent star silvered the night. Lonely and watchful in its light, I thought. Could it be you see it too, the lonesome star. Ah! One silent star.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MaryEllen Castaldo ~ Director of Children and Family Ministries

PSALTER READING

Psalm 122 ~ Francesca Feltmann

EPISTLE READING

Romans 13:8-14 ~ Luke Feltmann

SERMON

Wake Up

Rev. Bruce Ballantine

MUSICAL OFFERING

The People That Walked In Darkness from *Messiah*, GF Handel

Mike Schuil, Baritone

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light. And they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death upon them hath the light shined.

CALL to OFFERING

Please venmo @FirstPres-RidgewoodNJ,
drop your offering in the plate on your way out,
or mail check to the church. Thank you!



PRAYERS *of the* PEOPLE

Lord, you were born to set us free.
We pray for the people all around us,
tangled, trapped, and bound by sin and fear,
and the cumulative sins and fears of humanity, piling ever deeper.
We pray especially for those in special need of care today.

Silent Prayers

Let us find our rest in you, Lord.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Lord, you are the hope of all the earth.
We pray for a world in which things so often feel hopeless,
where people dearly desire the wholeness which only you can provide.
We pray especially for people in conflict and danger,
for those who lay down their lives,
and for those who lead us.

Silent Prayers

Lord, send your joy to every loving heart.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Lord, you are born to deliver us and to reign in us and among us.
We pray for your Church, called to bring in your reign.
Reign in us forever, and help us to live out the justice of your promised Kingdom.

Silent Prayers

Lord, hear our prayers.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Lord, when you walked the earth,
you went about the towns and cities and the countryside,
healing the sick and casting out demons.
We pray for those in need of your healing touch today,
whether the need is for healing of body, mind or spirit.

Silent Prayers

Lord, listen to your children praying.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

And now we are bold to pray as you have taught us:

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.



First Pres Ridgewood NJ
@FirstPres-RidgewoodNJ

*HYMN 20 - *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night*

BENEDICTION *and* POSTLUDE

And the Glory of the Lord from *Messiah* – G.F. Handel, abridged by Loni Smith

Linda Sweetman Waters, Organ

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The Chancel Flowers this morning are given by Jan Cross
in loving memory of her parents, Owen and Harriet Cross.

*Please stand if you are able.

SCRIPTURE READINGS for
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022

PSALTER READING

Psalm 122

¹ I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!” ² Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. ³ Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together. ⁴ 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. ⁵ For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David. ⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you. ⁷ Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers.” ⁸ For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, “Peace be within you.” ⁹ For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

EPISTLE READING

Romans 13:8-14

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

15

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

LLANGLOFFAN 7.6.7.6 D

Laurentius Laurenti, 1700

Trans. Sarah Borthwick Findlater, 1854

Alt. *The Hymnal* 1982

Welsh folk melody

Evans' *Hymnau a Thonau*, 1865As in *English Hymnal*, 1906

1. Re - joice! Re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;
 2. See that your lamps are burn - ing, Re - plen-ish them with oil;
 3. Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing And dark - er night is near.
 Look now for your sal - va - tion, The end of sin and toil.
 A - rise, Thou sun so longed for, A - bove this sha-dowed sphere!

The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing And soon He will draw nigh;
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing, The gates wide o - pen stand;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see

Up, watch with ex - pec - ta - tion, At mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry, The Bride-groom is at hand!
 The day of earth's re - demp - tion, And ev - er be with Thee!

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

ABERYSTWYTH 7.7.7 D

John Bowring, 1825; alt. 1972

Joseph Parry, 1879

1. Watch-man, tell us of the night, What its signs of prom-ise are.
 2. Watch-man, tell us of the night, High-er yet that star as-cends.
 3. Watch-man, tell us of the night, For the morn-ing seems to dawn.

Trav-eler, o'er yon moun-tain's height, See that glo-ry-beam-ing star.
 Trav-eler, bless-ed-ness and light, Peace and truth its course por-tends.
 Trav-eler, dark-ness takes its flight, Doubt and ter-ror are with-drawn.

Watch-man, does its beau-teous ray Aught of joy or hope fore-tell?
 Watch-man, will its beams a-lone Gild the spot that gave them birth?
 Watch-man, let your wan-derings cease; Has-ten to your qui-et home.

Trav-eler, yes; it brings the day, Prom-ised day of Is-ra-el.
 Trav-eler, a-ges are its own; See, it bursts o'er all the earth.
 Trav-eler, lo, the Prince of Peace, Lo, the Son of God is come!

*May be sung antiphonally.

This tune in a higher key, 303

Alternate tune: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR. 551