



MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP

December 1, 2021

12pm and 6:15pm



Graphic Design by Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Hope Can't Wait

GOD'S PROMISED DAY CAN'T WAIT

Created by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Someone once told me that hope was naive—
A foolish game that children play
When they pray that summer won't end,
And bedtime won't come.
Someone once told me that hope was naive as they
Cradled pessimism in their lap like a sleeping cat,
Stroking their ego while they stoked a fire within me.
Unfortunately for them, I'm allergic to cats.
And unfortunately for them, those who deny hope
Will never know vulnerability;
For hope requires us to believe in a better day—
Even when this one is falling apart.
Hope looks the 24-hour news cycle in the face,
Hope looks our broken relationships in the face,
Hope looks our low self-esteem in the face,
And declares at low tide that the water will return.
Hope is exhaling, trusting that your body will inhale again.
Hope is watching the sunset and setting an alarm.
Hope is planting seeds in the winter, assuming summer will come.
I never said it would be easy.
The ground is frozen, you are thirsty,
and the night is long.
But I will say this—
I have found hope to be the rhythm of love and
the fiber of faith;
For to hope is to believe in God's ability to bring about a better day,
And like a child with an Advent calendar,
I will always be counting down the days.
So to those who cradle pessimism and fear,
You can find me outside—with the kids—wishing on stars,
Praying to the God of today
That tomorrow will be just as beautiful.
Set your alarm.
We'd like for you to join us.
The sunrise won't wait.

Welcome to Zumbro Lutheran Church

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 1, 2021

Advent is a season of waiting, but is idle waiting what God wants of us? In preparation for the coming Messiah, we wonder together: What things can't wait? What demands our immediate attention? What requires work and preparation? Our Wednesday Advent worship will be a time to imagine, prioritize, and prepare. As we wait, what can't? Hope Can't Wait.

The liturgy being sung throughout Advent was first introduced earlier this year during Lent of 2021, while we worshiped virtually. Behold Our Light, by Aaron David Miller, is a beautiful collection of songs that is ensemble led.

GATHERING MUSIC

ENSEMBLE MUSICIANS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FILM AN INTRODUCTION TO *WHAT CAN'T WAIT*

please stand as you are able

SONG WAITING FOR YOU HANNAH RAND AND LENORA RAND

Songleader: The earth cries out, nothing feels right.
The world cries out, no justice in sight.
Fires burning everywhere, too many, too hot, too bright.;

**All: We are waiting for you. We are waiting for you.
We are waiting for that gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Songleader: The child cries out, don't turn out the light.
Broken hearts cry out, no end of hurt in sight.
Greed and guns rule everywhere, too many, too strong to fight.

**All: We are waiting for you. We are waiting for you.
We are waiting for that gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Ensemble: We are waiting for you. You are waiting for us, too.
We are waiting for you. You are waiting for us, too.

"Waiting for You."
Music by Hannah Rand and Lenora Rand
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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Gracious God, you paint a picture of a better world – a world of peace and joy, of equality and grace. But we turn our heads and close our eyes, afraid that you might want us to help.

C: You ask us to be brave, and we are complacent. You ask us to speak out, but instead we stay quiet.

L: You ask us to listen, and we assume we are the experts. You lead with love, and we wait on the sidelines. Forgive us for always being ten steps behind you.

C: Forgive us for all the ways we are works in progress. Fill our hearts with a hope that won't let go. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

you may be seated

2 Songleaders
 Be-hold, our light has come, death is no more,
2 All
 Be-hold, our light has come, death is no

though the sun fades from our sight. God has sent sus - tain - ing light.
 more,

Be-hold, our light has come, shine on us.
 Be-hold, our light has come, shine on us.

Stanza 1: Songleaders
Stanza 2-3: All

1 O Trin - i - ty, O bless - ed light, O Un - i - ty of
 2 you our morn - ing song of praise, to you our eve - ning
 sov - 'reign might: as now the fi - 'ry sun de - parts, shed ho - ly light with -
 prayer we raise; to you in awe we bend the knee from age to age, e -
 in our hearts.
 ter - nal - ly.

2 To
3 All (to next line)

glo - ry be to God a - bove and to the Son, the prince of love, and to the Spir - it,
3
 One in Three! We praise you, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF HOPE

BIBLE READING

ISAIAH 2:1-5 NRSV

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ²In 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. ³Many 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. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

HOPE CAN'T WAIT

PASTOR SHELLEY CUNNINGHAM

please stand as you are able

All

Lord, you have searched me and known me; you
know when I sit, when I rise. You know my thoughts, you
know my heart, you know the ways of my life. You
know the sound of my voice, you know the words of my
tongue; you hold me close, you guide my ways, you
know the ways of my life.

Songleaders

Where can I go to leave your spir - it? Where can I fall that
you aren't near? If I say, The dark - ness will
hide me, your bright light sets me free.

life. You know the ways of my life. You
know the ways of my life.

you may be seated

ENSEMBLE MUSICIANS

We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings hope.
We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings hope.
Sun of justice, shine upon us;
we are trusting in your promise.
We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings hope.

We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings hope.
We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings hope.
Loving Shepherd, walk beside us;
stir our hearts, and gently guide us.
We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings hope.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION AND CANDLE LIGHTING

All

My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord, my
spir-it sings for joy in God my Sav-ior. You look with fa-vor up - on your ser-vant,
bless-ed is my name. You have done great things for me, ho - ly is your
name. You send your mer-cy to those who fear you through ev - 'ry age.
You have shown the strength of your arm, you have scorned the thoughts of the proud,
you cast down the might - y, you have lift - ed the low - ly, ho - ly is your
name. You have filled the hun-gry with good things, you have left the rich with emp-ty
hands, you have come to the help of your peo-ple, ho - ly is your name.
You have kept your prom - ise of mer - cy, the prom-ise that you made to our
fore - bears; to A - bra'm and Sar - ah and their chil - dren for - ev - er,
ho - ly is your name. Ho - ly is your name. Ho - ly is your name.

BEFORE YOU GO—ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK

BLESSING

L: O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us, and your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG

AARON DAVID MILLER

Songleaders

2

Now let us go in peace. God's word has been ful -

2

All

Now let us go in peace.

filled. We have seen God's great sal - va - tion set in front of

God's word has been ful - filled.

all cre - a - tion. A light that saves the world, be - hold, our light has

A light that saves the world,

come. A - men.

be - hold, our light has come. A - men.

SENDING MUSIC

ENSEMBLE MUSICIANS

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

PREACHING-Pastor Shelley Cunningham; **WORSHIP LEADER**-Pastor Peter Strommen; **ADVENT ENSEMBLE MUSICIANS**-Bob Giere, Bob Hoel, Dennis Wilson, guitar; Todd Christensen, mandolin; Amy Adamson, cello; Tony Tschida, bass; Ruth Monson, Kristy Giere, flute; Ralph Schornack, Kristy Giere, piano; Janette Davis, Pastor Jason Bryan-Wegner, Laney Limburg, Nicole Pittenger, songleaders

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Disclaimer: The 8:30am service is livestreamed. If you wish to remain out of the camera's view, please sit in the side section to the right as you enter the sanctuary.



Hearing Loop installed. Switch hearing aid to T-Coil. Hearing devices are available to check out. Ushers are available to assist.

Our journey of faith leads us to build bridges of understanding and peace, to reach out with compassion, and to share the hope of Jesus.



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