

**HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**Order of Service for the Worship of God**

November 30, 2008

1st Sunday of Advent

11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE *Rejoice the Lord Is King* ~ Darwall/Mansfield Carolyn Wallace, Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Guy Wright

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *The Lord Is in His Holy Temple* Chancel Choir

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH** ~ Incorporating Isaiah 2:4

L: Today is the first Sunday of Advent. We light the first candle of our Advent Wreath as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

**P: "Advent" means "coming." We are preparing ourselves for the day:**

L: When the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;

**P: Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.**



**First Sunday of Advent**

\*SUNG RESPONSE *O Come, O Come Emmanuel, verse 2,* #245

\*UNISON OPENING PRAYER ~ From the PCUSA *Book of Common Worship*

**Eternal Father, through long generations you prepared a way for the coming of your Son, the light of the world. By the Holy Spirit, you still bring light to illumine our paths. Renew us in faith and hope, that we may be awake and alert, watching and living in preparation for the glorious return of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with you, and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP ~ Psalm 24: 7-10

L: Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

**P: Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!**

L: Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

**P: Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory!**

\*OPENING HYMN *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* Bulletin Insert

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION ~ From the PCUSA *Book of Common Worship*

**Eternal Lord, you are God of the future, as well as the past and present, and you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not**

**expected or prepared for your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, hold grudges, 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 returns to judge the world.** (*Silent prayer and personal confession*)

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

**P: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

\*GLORIA PATRI

#813

ANTHEM *Every Valley Shall Be Exalted* Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S LESSON (*No Children's Church during December.*)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON ~ Isaiah 64: 1-9 ~ Page 643 in the pew Bible

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence – as when fire kindles brushwood and fire causes water to boil – to make your name known to your enemies, and that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From of old, no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who joyfully work righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; we have been in our sins a long time, and shall we be saved? We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There are none who call upon your name, who stir themselves to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and you have delivered us into the hand of our iniquities. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; you are the potter, and we are the clay; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember our sin and guilt for ever. Behold, consider, we are all your people.

GOSPEL LESSON ~ Mark 13: 24-37 ~ Page 882 in the pew Bible

[Jesus said] "But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away before all these things take place.

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But of that day or that hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Take heed, watch; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Watch therefore – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning – lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Watch.”

L: This is the word of the Lord; **P: Thanks be to God!**

SERMON “First Sunday of Advent ~ The Return of the King” Rev. Frank Wyche

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles’ Creed* Inside front cover of Hymnal

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* #244

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ~ *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

\*DOXOLOGY #815

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER AND **THE LORD’S PRAYER** (...debts/debtors...)

\*HYMN *The King Is Coming* Bulletin Insert

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE *Lift Up Your Heads ~ Williams/Paxton* Carolyn Wallace

\*Those who are able may stand.

**BOLDFACE TYPE** indicates words spoken or sung by the congregation.

## **HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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Thurs.-Fri., 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
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***Advent: Christ has come; Christ has died;  
Christ is risen; Christ will come again***



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