



DOUGLAS UCC
A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

Order of Service for Sunday, November 27, 2022

First Sunday of Advent

Thank you for joining us today.

For Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Prayer List, [visit this week's E-Pistle here](#), where you can also subscribe to receive it by email, if you like.

***- stand if you wish to, and are able.**

Congressional Responses in Bold

Prelude *My Lord, What a Morning*
Peter Black
(Please use this time for quiet reflection and preparation for worship)

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of Altar Candles & Ringing in the Hour

Let us recognize the light of the world within us and ring in the hour of worship.

Introit (please stand)

*A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright;
a candle of Hope in December's dark night.
While angels sing blessings from heav'n's starry sky.
Our hearts we prepare now, for Jesus is nigh.*

Call to Worship

Adapted from Isaiah 2, Romans 13

Reader: Dan Mack

One: We know what time it is—the moment to wake from sleep.

Many: We awaken to greet the day, yearning for God's peace on this earth.

One: Let us lay down our swords and put aside all works of darkness.

Many: Let us walk in the light and live as peacekeepers.

One: Let us worship our God as expectant believers.

Many: We worship with joy, knowing the Christ Light will come!

One: Now is the time of watching and waiting.

Many: Let us worship in the Light of God's grace. Amen.

***Opening Hymn,** *Wake, O Wake, and Sleep No Longer*
 (Green Gather Hymnal No.335)
 (Find Music at the end of this program)

Unison Prayer

Installation of New Members

God who calls, thank you for the people who have listened to your call to become members of Douglas Congregational United Church of Christ. Send your Holy Spirit upon them and empower them to be instruments of light and peace in the world. May we uphold and support them as they dedicate themselves this day to our church community, and may all of us remain open to your call which continues throughout our lives. Amen.

Assurance of Grace and Peace

One: Peace be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us offer one another a sign of Peace.

Passing the Peace

Lord, Listen to Your Children

*Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord send your spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow'r, send us peace.*

(repeat after verse)

Words of Integration & Guidance

Rev. John Pavlovitz from his book, "Low: An Honest Advent Devotional"

Recently, I was on a flight to Albuquerque, New Mexico, when the captain announced, "Please fasten your seatbelts, because it may get a little choppy." "Choppy" is captain-speak for "we're about to get shaken." The captain was telling us matter-of-factly, "Hold on. Prepare yourselves. Turbulence is coming." This should be familiar territory for us, as it was for the first disciples. As Jesus was preparing his students for his physical absence, he says to them (and to us), "In this world, you will have trouble." In other words, "Hold on. Prepare yourselves. Turbulence is coming." But Jesus reminds us that we should not be shaken into hopelessness. He, much like the pilot of my plane, is not overwhelmed, because he has the threat right-sided. We can do the same. The question isn't whether we will be placed in the storms, but rather, how much of the turbulence we will allow to be placed within us. When we find ourselves in these storms or circumstances or troubling thoughts, we can rest in the knowledge that the things that cause our shaking, in the eyes of a God who sees and loves and accompanies us – are nothing more than a little "chop." Yes, turbulence is coming, but be not afraid. Advent is a time of hope, not hopelessness, so may hope trend in your head and reign in your heart this Advent season.

Called to Gift

The Words of Holy Scripture

One: A Reading of Scripture from Isaiah 2:1-5

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Lesson

One: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 24:36-44

Many: Glory to you, O Christ.

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

“Hope fo the Hopeless,” **Rev. Salvatore Sapienza**

Offering & Offertory

Little Bit of Light

Pamela Chappell

Composer: Carol Johnson

Joys & Concerns/Tibetan Prayer Bell

One: Thanks be to God!

Many: Alleluia!

One: O God,

Many: Hear our prayer.

***Doxology** *Give Thanks*

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One.

Give thanks because God's given Jesus Christ the son.

And now let the weak say “I am strong.” Let the poor say “I am rich,”

Because of what the Lord has done. Give Thanks.

***Celebration of Holy Communion**

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

Many: It is good to give God thanks & praise

***Creation's Praise** Isaiah 6:3

*Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts,
Heav'n and earth are full of Thee,
Heav'n and earth are praising Thee,
O Lord most high.*

(Please be seated)

Breaking of the Bread *Walk in the Reign*

*Close as tomorrow the sun shall appear.
Freedom is coming, and healing is near.
And I shall be with you in laughter and pain,
to stand in the wind, and walk in the reign,
to walk in the reign.*

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

(grape juice only on both sides of the aisle)

Receive the Bread of Life. **Amen.**

The Cup of Love, the Drink of Compassion. **Amen.**

***The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Mother/Father, always and everywhere, 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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.**

***Hymn of Sending** *Do Not Fear to Hope (vs. 1-3)*
(Green Gather Hymnal No.596)
(Find Music at the end of this program)

Benediction

Postlude *Come Thou, Almighty King*
Peter Black

Keep up with the Douglas UCC community
and the work of our service groups here:

www.douglasucc.org
<https://www.youtube.com/douglasucc>
<https://www.facebook.com/douglasucc>
<https://www.instagram.com/douglasucc>

335 Wake, O Wake, and Sleep No Longer



1. Wake, O wake, and sleep no long - er, For
 2. Zi - on hears the sound of sing - ing; Our
 3. Glo - ry, glo - ry, sing the an - gels, While



he who calls you is no stran - ger: A -
 hearts are thrilled with sud - den long - ing: She
 mu - sic sounds from strings and cym - bals; All



wake, God's own Je - ru - sa - lem! Hear, the mid - night
 stirs, and wakes, and stands pre - pared. Christ, her friend, and
 hu - man - kind, with songs a - rise! Twelve the gates in -



bells are chim - ing The sig - nal for his roy - al com -
 lord, and lov - er, Her star and sun and strong re - deem -
 to the cit - y, Each one a pearl of shin - ing beau -



ing: Let voice to voice an - nounce his name! We
 er— At last his might - y voice is heard. The
 ty; The streets of gold ring out with praise. All



feel his foot - steps near, The Bride - groom at the door—
 Son of God has come To make with us his home:
 crea - tures round the throne A - dore the ho - ly One

ADVENT



Al - le - lu - ia! The lamps will shine With light di - vine
Sing Ho - san - na! The fight is won, The feast be - gun;
With re - joic - ing: A - men be sung By ev - 'ry tongue



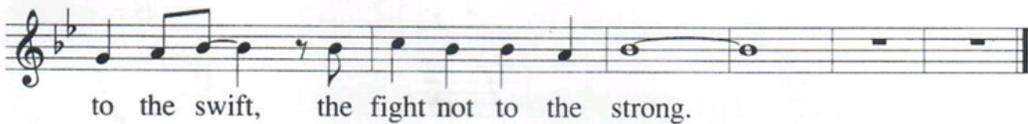
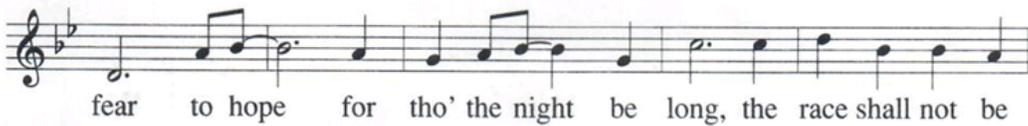
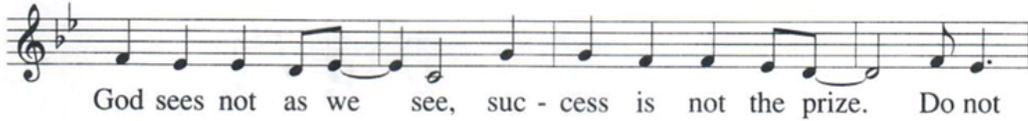
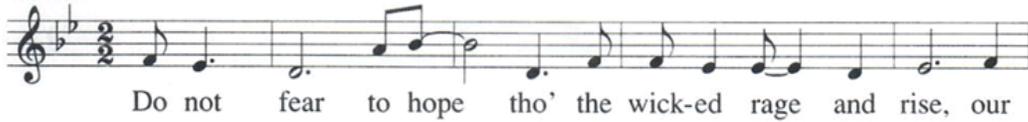
As Christ the sav - ior comes to reign.
We fix our eyes on Christ a - lone.
To crown their wel - come to the King.

Text: Matthew 25:1-13; *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*. Philipp Nicolai. 1556-1608; tr. and adapt. by Christopher Idle, b. 1938, © 1982, Hope Publishing Co.

Tune: WACHET AUF. 89 8 89 8 66 4 44 8; Philipp Nicolai. 1556-1608; harm. by J.S. Bach. 1685-1750

596 Do Not Fear to Hope

Refrain



Verses



- | | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| 1. Look to God | when you are sure |
| 2. Look to God | when vic - to - ry |
| 3. Look to God | when cyn - ics say |
| 4. Look to God | when rea - son fails |



your sin is great - er than grace.
seems out of jus - tice' sight.
our plan - et's doom is sealed.
and ter - ror reigns in the night.



Look to God whose love is gift. Be - lieve and
Look to God whose might - y hand brought forth the
Look to God by whose great pow'r the dead were

