



## **Order of Service for Sunday, November 28, 2021**

### **Reign of Christ Sunday**

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

#### **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:

**Prelude**, *Somewhere Out There*, 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.

#### **Advent Candle Song**

*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** (Isaiah 2, Romans 13)

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, *My Soul in Stillness Waits*, vs. 1-3 (Green Gather Hymnal No.328)**

**Unison Prayer**

**O God, the first Advent candle symbolizes “hope,” hope of new life with you, one of possibility and imagination. This Advent, we call out to you, O God. Help us to stay awake and watchful, longing for the Light. May we be filled in each step of Advent with hope. Wondrous God, creator of the world, break through all that keeps us from you. Guide us from the night of our hopelessness, and lead us with joy toward the dawning of your New Day. 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** *Spirit, Fill Me*

*Spirit come and fill me, fill me with your peace,  
fill me with your joy and your love.  
Spirit come and show me, show me how to care,  
show me how to share your light.  
Help me give my hand to those in need,  
let my heart be open to receive.  
When we share your love, we can work together  
to heal this broken world.  
Spirit come and fill us, fill us with your peace,  
fill us with your joy and your love,  
Spirit come and show us, show us how to care,  
show us how to share your light.*

**Words of Integration & Guidance** by 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.

# Prepare Ye the Way

## The Words of Holy Scripture

One: A Reading of Scripture from Jeremiah 33:14-16

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

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel Lesson

One: The Holy Gospel according to Luke 21:25-36

Many: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

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

Many: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Homily** "Making Way for the Way," Rev. Salvatore Sapienza

**Offering & Offertory** *"Advent Hymn (The Thrill of Hope)"*  
*Nancy Plantinga & Peter Black*  
*Composer: Christy Nockels*

# Hope Anchors the Soul

## Joys & Concerns/Tibetan Prayer Bell

One: Thanks be to God!

Many: **Alleluia!**

One: O God,

Many: **Hear our prayer.**

**\*Doxology** *Give Thanks to the Lord*

*Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good  
and God's mercy shall endure.  
For God alone has done marv'lous things,  
give thanks unto the Lord.  
God made the earth and heaven  
with a strong and mighty hand.  
God has moved us to sing, proclaim this song!  
Give thanks unto our God.*

## **\*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** *Sanctus (Patriquin)*

*Holy holy holy,  
God of power and might;  
Heaven and earth are full,  
are full of your glory:  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes,  
who comes in God's name.  
Hosanna in the high – est!*

## **Sharing of the Bread & Cup**

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

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

## **Give Us This Day**

### **\*Prayer of Thanksgiving & 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)

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude** *People, Get Ready*, Peter Black

Have a great week! Keep up with the Douglas UCC community and the work of our service groups here:

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