

Southminster Presbyterian Church



"Starry Night" by Vincent Van Gogh

A Service for the Worship of God *First Sunday of Advent*

November 29, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

PREPARATION

This Sunday, we will be lighting our first Advent candle, the candle of HOPE. If you have made an Advent wreath, we invite you to light the first candle at the same time that the Romito family lights it during the service.

Gathering Around God's Word

Prelude

Jim Pera

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Advent Song

Cari Sullivan

Shine on us, O God of jus - tice;
Guide our path through gloom of
night; Bear with - in us
Wis - dom's glo - ry; Come to us, O
Christ the Light!

Lighting of the first Advent Candle

The Romito Family

Hymn # 88

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

verses 1, 2, and 7

Prayer of Confession

Pat Bethel

Gracious God who waits for us, you know that it is never easy for us to confess our sins. There are hurts we have caused to our family and friends, which we would like to forget. There are those we believe are impossible to love, so we don't try. There are people who live on the edge of our society, and we ignore their cries for help. Forgive us, God who comes near to us. When we have lost our way, show us your way. Lead us, in humility, down the streets of your kingdom. Teach us your truth, so we might be able to keep your word, revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

(Silence for personal reflection and confession.) Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

*One: The promise of the season of Advent
is the promise of Emmanuel, God with us.*

**All: Jesus calls us to keep awake so that we are ready for God's arrival.
Therefore, let us lay aside all those things that distract us
from faithfully watching for God.**

One: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel:

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

Response to Forgiveness

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Might Gates”

Hymn #93, verse 3

**Redeemer, come! I open wide
my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in me reveal.**

Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Hearing God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Laura Nile Tuell

Scripture

Isaiah 64:1-4,8

Pat Bethel

Children's Time

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

There is an Advent wreath coloring page for the children at the end of the bulletin.

Anthem

“People Look East”
Small Vocal Ensemble

arr. By Eleanor Farjeon

Scripture

Mark 13:24-37

Rev. Laura Nile Tuell

Sermon

“Nose Prints”

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Responding to God's Word

Hymn # 92

“While We Are Waiting, Come”

Presentation of Offerings

Rev. Laura Nile Tuell

If you would like to give online, please go to www.sminster.com/give where you can give once or set-up a recurring monthly offering to the church

Presentation Hymn # 607

“Doxology”

Inclusive Version

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Rev. Laura Nile Tuell

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

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.

Hymn #82

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

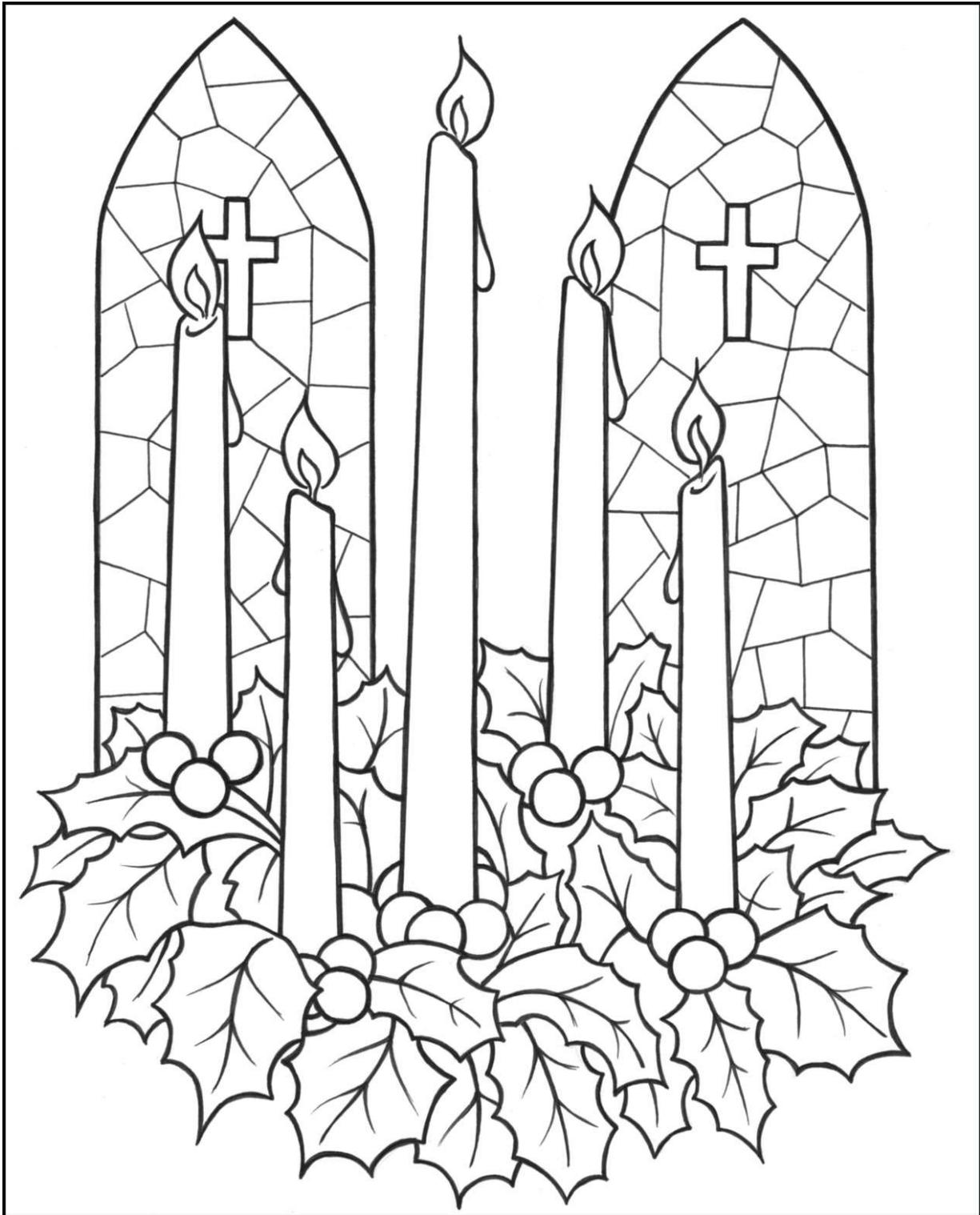
Postlude

Jim Pera



*Flowers were given to the glory of God by Linda Wiggers
in memory of loved ones who are never really gone but live in our hearts.*

Children's Coloring Page



- *The candles stand for Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.*
- *Three are purple, but the joy candle is pink.*
- *The middle, white candle is the Christ Candle, and we light it on Christmas Eve to celebrate the birth of Jesus.*