

Parkwood UMC Service of Worship
First Sunday of Advent
November 30th, 2025

† Please stand as you are able.



**QR Code for Nursery
Sign-In and Out Log**

Desiree Davis-Omburo

Prelude

**Welcome and Announcements
Chiming the Trinity**

Moment of Silent Contemplation

Call to Worship: What Gives You Hope?

Pastor Adam

Lighting of the first Advent Candle

The Bender family

Today we light the candle of hope to remind ourselves that God is at work in this world. *(light candle)* May the light of this candle be a sign of the light God has put within our hearts.

All: May God's light burn within us this week, inspiring hope and action of living into God's good future today. Amen.

Hanging of the Greens

Marie Porter

Reader (a child or adult): A reading from the prophet Isaiah, chapter 41: When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue is parched with thirst, I the LORD will answer them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them. I will open rivers on the bare heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water. I will put in the wilderness the cedar, the acacia, the myrtle, and the olive; I will set in the desert the cypress, the plane and the pine together, so that all may see and know, all may consider and understand, that the hand of the LORD has done this, the Holy One of Israel has created it.

Reader (a child or adult): the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Leader: In the 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 hill; all the nations shall stream to it. Many 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 God may teach us God's ways and that we may walk in God's paths."

--Isaiah 2:2-3 alt.

Reader: and with what shall we bring into God's house?

Leader: *(branches, greens, wreaths are brought forward)* Bring branches of cedar and holly, bring evergreens and a pine tree, hang wreaths and garlands.

Make the church fragrant with the smell of living things and our holy play. In acts of hanging greens and listening to the words of prophets and seers let us make our hearts and this space a place of inward and outward preparation for the One who comes to give us second birth.

Leader: O long-expected Jesus, Emmanuel, our King and Savior,

All: Come and save us, O Lord, our God.

Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (stanzas 1-2, 5) *sung during the arranging of the greens, garlands, and poinsettias*

Leader: Here in this place we prepare for the coming of the Lord. Here we will remember his Advent, his birth in Bethlehem, weak and helpless as an infant. And here we rekindle our prayer, "Come, Lord Jesus" as we await his coming as the bright and morning star. *Prayer: O Dayspring, Brightness of the Light eternal and Sun of justice, (tree lights and star can be turned on)*

Come, and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, deliver them. Come, enliven and illumine our hearts, again.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (stanzas 6-7)

† **Hymn**

View the Present Through the Promise

WS3048

Prayer for Illumination

Marie Porter

Holy God, whether it's through angels or music, friendships or sermons, study or nature—when you speak, we long to hear it. Speak to us today through the Scriptures. In a world as chaotic and broken as ours, we could use your words of truth, hope and healing. With gratitude we pray, amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

Rosemary Marlowe

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:1-8

Prayer of Confession

Marie Porter

God who turns weapons of harm into gardening tools for growth, forgive us

when we have pointed the finger at wrongdoers while we partook in harming others. Forgive us when we have called for peace while harboring violence in our hearts. Forgive us for harboring and hoarding food and resources for ourselves, while others around us were in need. Free us from selfishness, fear, a scarcity mindset, and destructive and self-destructive ways. Make us whole, again, to live in right relationship with You, our neighbors, and ourselves. May we live in gratitude for the abundance You have given us, that we might share that abundance with others. Amen.

(silent confession)

Words of Assurance

Marie Porter

Friends, even in hard times and in times of scarcity, God is at work within us, around us, and God provides. In Jesus Christ, God has provided a way back into wholeness within ourselves and in our relationships. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Glory to God! Amen.

† **Passing of the Peace**

Anthem "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" by Mark A. Miller

Sermon Pastor Adam

† **The Offering** "O God of Every Nation" **UMH 435**



The Doxology (to the tune on UMH 95)
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures high and low.
Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit
One. Amen.

Prayers of the People

If you have a concern you would like for us to pray for, please write it on a prayer card located in the pews and hold it in the air for an usher to collect.

The Lord's Prayer

† **Closing Hymn** Soon and Very Soon **UMH 706**

† **Benediction**

† **Chiming the Trinity**

† **Postlude** Desiree Davis-Omburo

Parkwood United Methodist Church November 30, 2025



Christ: Swords into Plowshares, by Kelly Latimore Icons

1st Sunday of Advent

Sunday, November 30, 2025