



**Middlebury Congregational Church
United Church of Christ**

**November 28, 2021
First Sunday of Advent**

PRELUDE

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

J.S. Bach

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist: Michele Finn

INTROIT

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

Leader: God of our salvation, for you we wait.

People: Night and day we pray for your return.

Leader: Come and fulfill your promise to us.

People: Come and deliver your people

INVOCATION

Liturgist

LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

For ever and ever. Amen.

[We use "Father" and "trespasses," but please use whatever words bring you closest to God.]

CALL TO CONFESSION (based on Luke 21:25-36)

Rev. Manzi

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, we have not kept watch for you. We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns. We have not waited to find your will for us.

We have not noticed the needs of the people around us. We have not acknowledged the love that has been shown to us. Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness. Help us to wait to know your will. Help us to

look out for the needs of others. Help us to work and watch for your coming. Amen.

(Time for individual silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (based on Luke 3:5-6)

Hear the good news! Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain made low, and the crooked made straight, and the rough made smooth, and all flesh shall see that salvation of God. Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

The Tiso Family

Prayer

Leader: Eternal God, as we await the coming of our savior, help us to hope. Increase our hope when it is small, awaken it when it is dormant, confirm it when it is wavering, strengthen it when it is weak, and raise it up when it is overthrown. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

ALL: Amen

Children preK-8th grade may exit through the back doors of the sanctuary and meet in the Narthex to go to Sunday School

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READINGS OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURE

Rev. Manzi

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness.

Luke 21:25-36

"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

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STUTT GART 8.7.8.7.

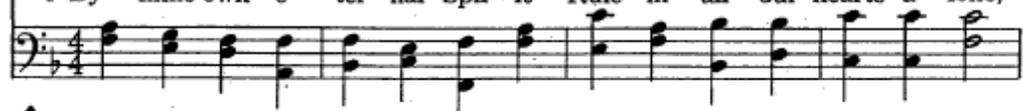
Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

Melody altr. to Christian F. Will, 1660-1716

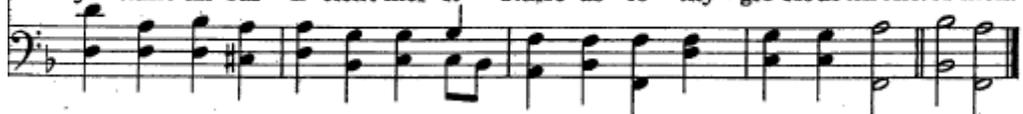
"Psalmodia Sacra," Golka, 1715



1 Come, thou long-ex-pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Is-rael's strength and con-so-la-tion, Hope of all the earth thou art;
3 Born thy peo-ple to de-liv-er, Born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e-ter-nal Spir-it Rule in all our hearts a-lone;



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in thee.
Dear de-sire of ev-ery na-tion, Joy of ev-ery long-ing heart.
Born to reign in us for-ev-er, Now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.
By thine all-suf-fi-cient mer-it Raise us to thy glo-rious throne. A-men.



ADVENT