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**FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
JOINT WORSHIP  
December 3, 2023 • 10:00 am**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

*(Please be sure to silence your cell phones. Thank you!)*

**PRELUDE** 前奏 – Shane Cantanho, piano

**WELCOME** 歓迎

– Mark Teagle, Director of Spiritual Formation,  
Community Engagement, and Music

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** 招きの言葉 (L.-Liturgist; P.-People)

– Jan Yamaguchi

**L:** As we enter the season of Advent, we wait for the birth of Christ, Our Savior, and want to spread our joy by welcoming all to this time of Great Wonder.

**P:** As a community of faith, we seek to be a warm, welcoming congregation where all are included, especially those who are alone in our community.

L: We seek to include the lonely among us so that they can experience the joy of togetherness and the Wonder of Christ's birth as a part of our community.

**P: As a faith community, show us where to seek the lonely and how to invite them into fellowship with us.**

L: We seek to stop loneliness from growing in our community.

**P: As a faith community, we commit to reaching out to those who may be lonely this season and throughout the year. Let loneliness end here.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER** 祈祷 – Jan Yamaguchi

Lord of All, we come together this morning seeking the comfort and communion found in this service and group of fellow believers. As a faith community, we are called to action. We want to make a difference in our lives and the lives of others. We want to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and shelter the homeless. This seems such a daunting task, so impossible for one person or even a group of people to do that many times, we do nothing. Among us, though, are people that we can reach out to: we can reach out to those who are lonely and alone in our community. We can find ways to express our caring about the physical

needs as well as emotional and spiritual needs of our neighbors. We yearn for involvement with each other and our greater community to ensure that no one is alone or forgotten. Move us, Lord, to act in ways that bring us into community with those who may be lonely and alone. Amen

**\*SONG: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” UMH #211**

– Wesley Praise Band

*Traditional. Public Domain*

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
and order all things far and nigh;  
to us the path of knowledge show  
and cause us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, great Lord of might,  
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times once gave the law

in cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree,  
an ensign of thy people be;  
before thee rulers silent fall;  
all peoples on thy mercy call.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

### **ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING:**

— Jim & Pat Higuchi

A reading from Psalm 122:1 - "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'"

We are glad. Whether we drove in or climbed up, whether we logged on or tuned in. We are glad to be here in this community, with this family. It is a place of joyful hope, of radical welcome. It is a place where, together, we can wait in wondrous anticipation of the kingdom to come.

And a reading from Isaiah 2:3 - "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'".

We light this candle as a sign of our hope, our joyous hope that we can be restored – our faith restored, our strength restored, our confidence restored, our joy restored as we watch and wait with all God’s people for the promise to be fulfilled.

**COMMUNION**: Rev. John Oda, Senior Pastor

**SONG**: “We Are the Body of Christ” TFWS #2227

– Wesley Praise Band

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One heart, one Spirit, one voice to praise you,  
we are the body of Christ.  
One goal, one vision: to see you exalted.  
We are the body of Christ.

And to this we give our lives  
to see you glorified.  
One heart, one Spirit, one voice to praise you,  
we are the body of Christ.  
One goal, one vision: to see you exalted.  
We are the body of Christ.

And to this we give our lives  
to see you glorified.

One heart, one Spirit, one voice to praise you,  
we are the body of Christ.

One goal, one vision: to see you exalted.

We are the body of Christ.

**SONG: “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” UMH #196**

– Shane Cantanho

*Words by Charles Wesley, Music by Rowland H. Prichard,  
Public Domain*

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us,  
let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel’s strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child and yet a King,  
born to reign in us forever,  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal spirit  
rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all sufficient merit,  
raise us to they glorious throne.

**CHORAL ANTHEM** 聖歌隊讃美:

“Come, Emmanuel” — Wesley Chancel Choir

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**SCRIPTURE** 聖書: — Jan Yamaguchi

Psalms 25:14–18 (*The Message*, alt)

<sup>14</sup>God-friendship is for God-worshippers;

They are the ones God confides in.

<sup>15</sup>If I keep my eyes on God,

I won't trip over my own feet.

<sup>16</sup>Look at me and help me!

I am lonely and afflicted.

<sup>17</sup>My heart and mind are fighting each other;

Call a truce to this civil war.

<sup>18</sup>Take a hard look at my life of hard labor,

Then lift this ton of sin.

**JAPANESE SCRIPTURE** 聖書: Akiko Gordon: ゴードン明子

詩編 25章14節-18節

<sup>14</sup>主を畏れる人に

主は契約の奥義を悟らせてくださる。

<sup>15</sup>わたしはいつも主に目を注いでいます。

わたしの足を網から引き出してください。

<sup>16</sup>御顔を向けて、わたしを憐れんでください。

わたしは貧しく、孤独です。

<sup>17</sup>悩む心を解き放ち

痛みからわたしを引き出してください。  
<sup>18</sup>御覧ください、わたしの貧しさと労苦を。  
どうかわたしの罪を取り除いてください。

**MESSAGE 説教: “Together: The Beauty of Community-  
Week 1”**

— Rev. John Oda

**SONG: “Prepare the Way of the Lord” UMH #207**

— Wesley Praise Band

*Words Isaiah 40:3; 52:10*

*Music by Jacques Berthier and the Community of Taizé*

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Prepare the way of the Lord.  
Prepare the way of the Lord,  
and all people will see the  
salvation of our God.

Prepare the way of the Lord.  
Prepare the way of the Lord,  
and all people will see the  
salvation of our God.

**COLLECTION OF OUR OFFERING 献金 :**

— Jan Yamaguchi

Today’s Altar Flowers are given by the Matsui,  
Kiyomura, & Morita grandchildren and great-



grandchildren in memory of James and Misaye Yamaguchi, Tadao & Lorraine Tokimoto & Fumio Higashihara.

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**— Shane Cantanho  
“Over the Rainbow”

**\*DOXOLOGY 頌栄** — Shane Cantanho

*"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" words by Thomas Ken | music by Luis Bourgeois | words and music Public Domain*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

*In Japanese:*

A me tsu chi ko zo ri te  
Ka shi ko mi ta ta e yo  
Mi me gu mi a fu ru ru  
Chi chi mi ko mi ta ma o. Amen

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER 祈祷** — Jan Yamaguchi

We are returning to You, God, a portion of what you have provided to us. Use these gifts to help meet the needs of our fellow human beings and in furthering your work in our world. Guide their use so that they lead to comfort for those in need. Remind us, Lord, of the part we can play in making this a better world for all. Amen

**PASTORAL PRAYER** 牧会祈祷: — Virginia Bailey

**\*HYMN: 奉献曲: “Shout to the Lord”**

– Wesley Praise Band

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My Jesus, my Savior,  
Lord, there is none like you.  
All of my days, I want to praise,  
the wonders of your mighty love.  
My comfort, my shelter,  
tower of refuge and strength.  
Let every breath, all that I am,  
never cease to worship you.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing  
power and majesty, praise to the King.  
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar  
at the sound of your name.  
I sing for joy at the work of your hands.  
Forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

My Jesus, my Savior,  
Lord, there is none like you.  
All of my days, I want to praise,  
the wonders of your mighty love.

My comfort, my shelter,  
tower of refuge and strength.  
Let every breath, all that I am,  
never cease to worship you.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing  
power and majesty, praise to the King.  
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar  
at the sound of your name.  
I sing for joy at the work of your hands.  
Forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

**\*BENEDICTION 祝禱:** – Rev. John Oda

**\*RESPONSE 応答 – “Go Now In Peace”** – Shane Cantanho

*Words and Music: Don Besig OneLicense 735877-A.*

Go now in peace, never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true.  
Know God will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there, watching from above  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

**POSTLUDE MUSIC** 後奏: — Shane Cantanho

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\*Please stand if you are able.