

United Church of Christ of California ~ California, Missouri
Rev. Lina Eddy **Pastor**
Mrs. Beth Dampf **Organist**
Mrs. Stacy Friedrich **Sr. Choir Director**

November 30, 2025 ~ First Sunday of Advent

**All those who are able, please stand*

The Bell

The Prelude

Lighting of the Candles Camden & Sutton Lawson

Choral Opening

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship – HOPE *(Please remain seated)*

Advent Reading: Hope ***Lena Bieri and Family***

Leader: Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the Sunday of Hope.

Leader: Our hope is in God, and in his son Jesus Christ. He is the one appointed by God to be judge of all things. He is the one through whom God has promised to save and redeem his people.

Leader: We light this candle today to remind us that he is our hope and the hope of the world. We thank God for the promises he has made to us and for the light he has brought into the world.

Lighting of The Candle of HOPE.

*Hymn No. 92 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

O God of Hope, Emmanuel, God with Us -- we pray you to send your light into our hearts. Help us to be ready for the day and the hour of Christ's appearing. Live in us and help us to live in you. By the power of the Holy Spirit, touch us. Transform us so that our worship, our celebration, our time of preparation, may be pleasing unto you - both now and forevermore. Amen.

O Lord, open our lips!

*Act of Praise No. 493 “Gloria Patri” (*Glory be to the Father*)

Hymn for Children **“Away in the Manger”**

Holly Bieri

Sr. Choir

Ginnie Medlin

Gracious God, as we light the candle of hope and open your Word, shine your light upon us. Awaken our hearts to your promise, open our eyes to your truth, and prepare us to walk in your ways of peace. Through Jesus Christ the Light of the World. Amen.

First Lesson: Isaiah 2:1-5 p. 587

Second Lesson: Matthew 24:36-44 p. 859

Sermon

“A Time of Hope!”

Hymn No. 89 “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Kyrie “Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us”

Declaration of Forgiveness

God’s mercies are fresh every morning. In Christ, God offers forgiving grace and welcome into a community of trust, abundance, and hope. Let us give thanks for the mercy of God, and pass the peace of Christ in community among us. **Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And with you also.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

As we pray together -

The Lord’s Prayer (*debts and debtors*)

Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine

Sharing the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, we offer you thanks and praise for this Advent season, a season of anticipation. Help us to show forth your gifts of love and grace to each other and to all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

*Response No. 563 “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”
(*Printed on laminated card in pew or back page of large print bulletin*)

*The Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn No. 389 “Be Still, My Soul”

*Benediction

*Congregational Response “**Go Tell It on the Mountain**”

p. 110- Sing twice

*“Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Chris is born!”*

*Postlude

Activities Calendar: November 30, 2025 ~ December 7, 2025

Sunday, November 30, 2025, First Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:30 a.m. – Worship – Communion

2:30 p.m. - Christmas Program Practice for Child 4, Shepard, Child 5,
Angel, and Child 6

Monday, December 1, 2025

6:30 p.m. – Sunday School Teacher’s and Officers Meeting

Tuesday, December 2, 2025

9:00 a.m. – Prayer Cell

11:00 a.m. – Quilters meet

6:30 p.m. – Sr. Choir Practice

Wednesday, December 3, 2025

6:00 p.m. – Fellowship Meal and Confirmation

6:30 p.m. –God’s Singers

– NO Sr. Choir practice

Friday, December 5, 2025

6:00 a.m. – Men's Bible Study at the Crossroads

Saturday, December 6, 2025

9:30 a.m. – VeggieTales

Sunday, December 7, 2025, Second Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. – MSYF Biscuit and Gravy Fundraiser

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:30 a.m. – Worship

12:00 p.m. – Toys for Tots Packaging at Sweet Chipotle

5:00 p.m. – Sr. High Friendsgiving & Gingerbread House at Ingrams

Looking Ahead...

December 8 - Consistory 6 p.m.

December 14 – R.O.K. Sunday

- Salem's Christmas Program 7 p.m.

December 15 – Brotherhood/MSYF Caroling 5 p.m.

December 17 – Women's Guild at Noon

December 21 – Cantata

December 24th – Christmas Eve Program 7 pm

- Salem Christmas Eve Service 10 pm

December 25th – Christmas Day Service 10 am

December 28th – Rev. Mike Williams- guest pastor

Thank you to Lena Bieri & Family for leading the Advent Call to Worship this morning.

Wednesday Evening Meal – Dec. 3, 6:00 p.m.

Chicken Noodle and Tomato Soup, Grilled Cheese and Salad

Don't forget to sign up if you are coming!

“Messiah” Sing-Along

Sunday, December 7, 2025 ~ 4 p.m.

California High School ~ Performing Arts Center

All are welcome!

Please pray for these . . .

Love & Justice in God's World

Family and Friends of Wilma Knierim, Conny Heiland, Roy Meloy, Rhonda (Meller) Becker

Confirmands: Lena Bieri, Megan Carlock, Royce Everett, Logan Milligan and Meredith Wolford

All Those Who Need Our Prayers, including:

Charles Velazquez (Dolores Burger's brother-in-law), Diane (Henry) Jobe, Michael and Tammy Rex, Becky Zuidervaat, Bill Schacht, Jenine Baker, Alan Chambers, Courtney Cassil, Joyce Rohrbach, Jo Suggs, Judy Kilmer, Jaden Perry (*Janice Anderson's grandson*)

All Those Serving in the U.S. Military, including:

Martin Knipker (*son of Kenny Knipker*)

Dwight Bowlin (*grandson of the late Jack & Carole Bowlin, Fort Campbell, KY*)

Dakota Meyer (*grandson of Billy Meyer, Ft. Carson, Colorado Springs, CO*)

Madelynn Perry (*granddaughter of Jan Anderson, army – Europe*)

Dylan Ash (*spouse- Jasmine Ash and son of Lanny & Ellen Ash, Great Lakes Naval Base, North Chicago, IL*)

Derek Meyer (*grandson of Elaine & Eldred Proctor, Army, Italy*)

Blake Street (*grandson of Jenine Baker, Army, Ft. Drum, NY*)

A Christmas tree has been put up in the foyer upstairs outside the elevator. We are calling it the “**Memory Tree.**” It is for families to decorate with an ornament in memory of their loved one. You can stop by anytime and put your ornament on the tree. Please leave a note in the church office when you bring in your ornament so we can list your loved one's ornament in the bulletin.

Do you like to Quilt or Sew?

The First Tuesday Quilters invite you to come the first Tuesday of each month (except January and August) from 11:00 to 4:00 p.m. (or anytime during that time that works for you) to come join them.

December 2nd is the next Tuesday.

Questions, contact Clarice Nelson at 573-796-4408 or the Church Office at 573-796-4885.

The MSYF will be serving breakfast on **Sunday, December 7th** from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Please join us for biscuits and gravy, sausage and homemade cinnamon rolls. Proceeds will help with the cost for Young Christians Weekend in Branson in the spring. Thank you for your support.

Giving Tree

The Sunday School is sponsoring this year's Giving Tree today during opening. This is also known as the "sock and glove tree". We will be collecting donations of children or youth sized socks, gloves, underwear, belts, coats, etc. and they can be placed under the Christmas tree on the stage in the Friendship Hall during the opening. **Items will be received through Wednesday, December 3rd.** These donations are distributed to local elementary students on an as-needed basis that go out to local kids before Christmas break. The school is always in need of items like this and your donations are greatly appreciated.

Congregational Survey

Please pick up a survey in the back of the church. The Search Committee is asking for you to complete **before or by December 14th**. Any questions, see one of the search committee members. Darles Vernon, Ken Wolken, Toni Kueffer, Larry Rohrbach, Morgan Opie, Steven Burger and Tammy Kilmer.

*Church office 573-796-4885 / Website: www.calmo-ucc.org
rhonda@calmo-ucc.org*

Historical Committee Request

For the Christmas season, the Historical Committee would like to display Christmas ornaments and nativity sets in the cabinet by the Church office. If you have a favorite ornament or nativity set that you would like to provide for display, please drop it off at the Church office anytime during the month of December. Also, if you have a special story or description that goes with your piece, please feel free to share as well. Items will be available for pick-up after January 5th. If you brought a Veteran's picture, it can be picked up anytime.

Dates for Practices for Christmas Letters Play

Today, Sunday, November 30 at 2:30-4:30PM Child 4, Shepard, Child 5, Angel, Child 6

Sunday, December 14 after church all members of play and Christmas letters Choir

Dress Rehearsal

Sunday, December 21 at 2:30PM to 4:30PM all members of play and choir

Wednesday, December 24, arrive at 6:30PM for Performance at 7PM

2–3-year-olds and pre-k will have a puppet show and sing first for the program

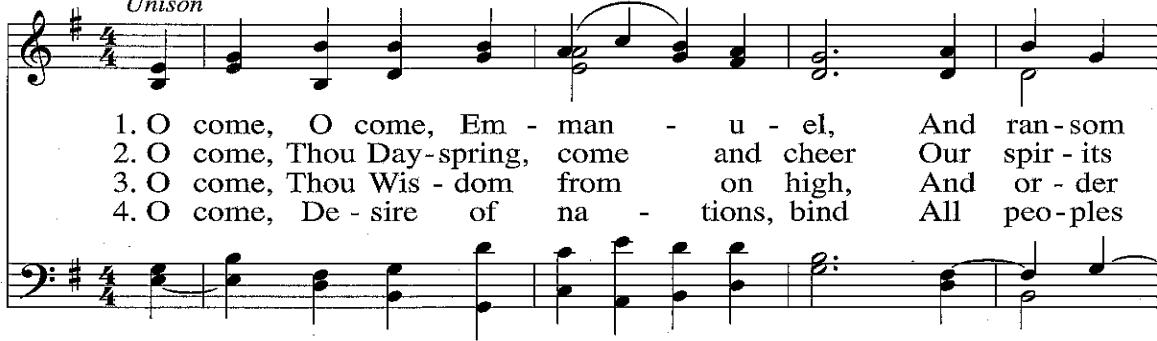
A **Nursery** is available in the upstairs hallway, just outside the sanctuary. The nursery attendant is **Emma Bestgen**. There are activity bags at the back of the sanctuary for children that stay in the worship service.

Need some help with hearing? See an usher at the back of the sanctuary to check out a hearing assisted unit for your personal use in the sanctuary and in the Friendship Hall. We have new units available.

Notice the “Connection Cards” in the pews. They are for our guests or anyone that has a prayer request or needs more information about the church. Please place it in the offering plate.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

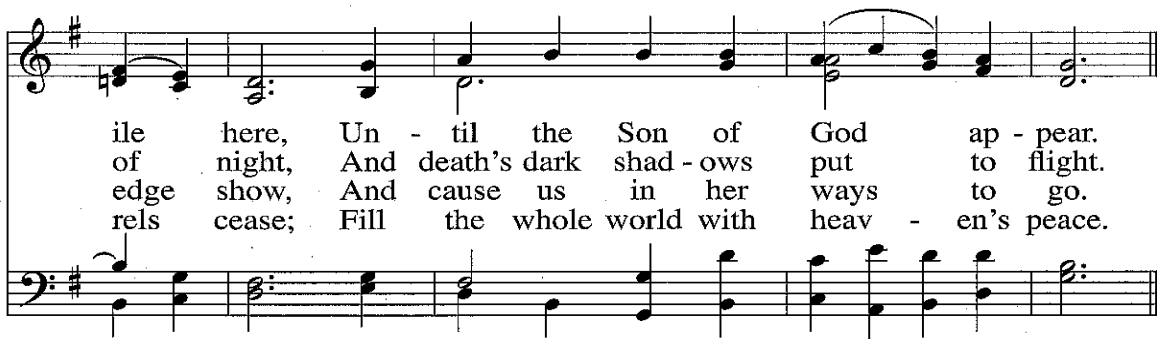
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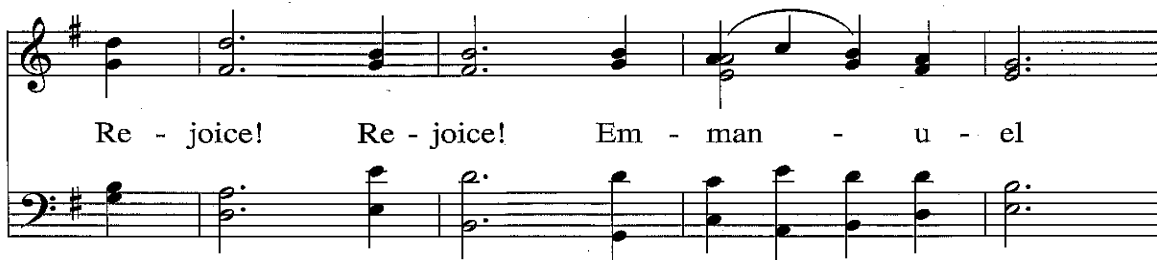
1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
 2. O come, Thou Day - spring, come and cheer Our spir - its
 3. O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, And or - der
 4. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind All peo - ples



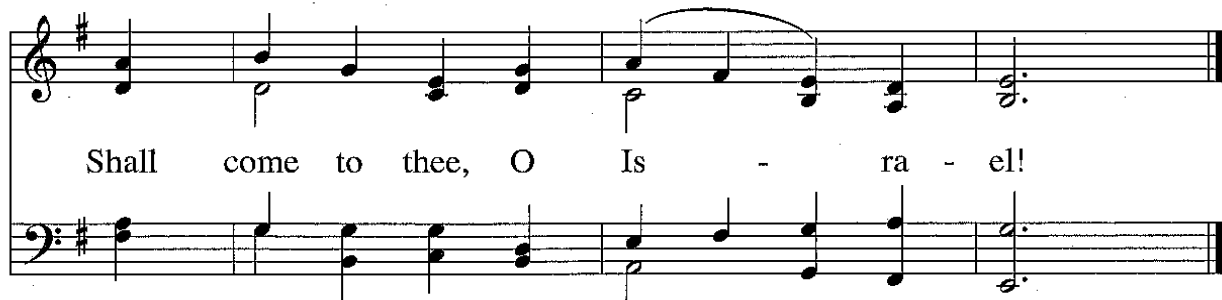
cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex -
 by Thine ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds
 all things, far and nigh; To us the path of knowl -
 in one heart and mind; Bid en - vy, strife and quar -



ile here, Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 of night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
 edge show, And cause us in her ways to go.
 rels cease; Fill the whole world with heav - en's peace.

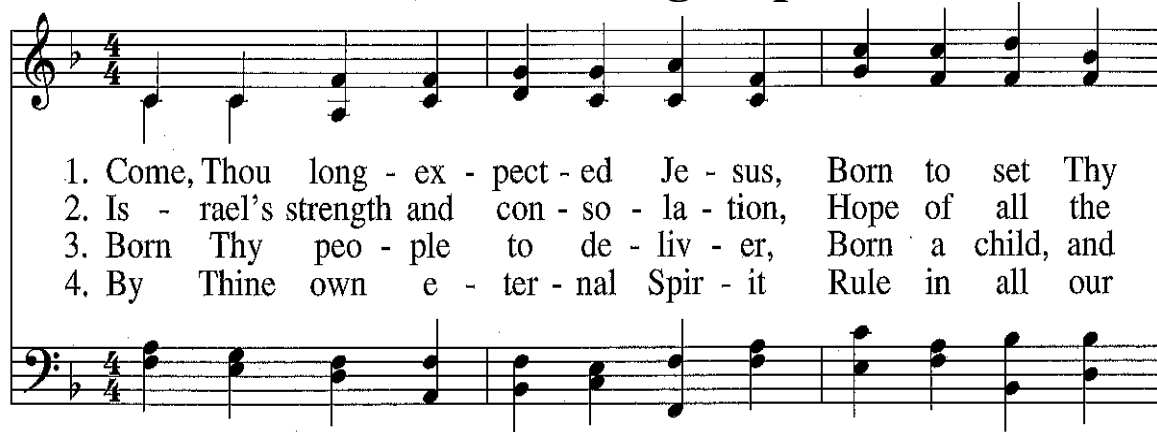


Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1. Come, Thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy
2. Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the
3. Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a child, and
4. By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our




peo - ple free; From our fears and sins re - lease us,
earth Thou art: Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion,
yet a king, Born to reign in us for - ev - er,
hearts a - lone; By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it

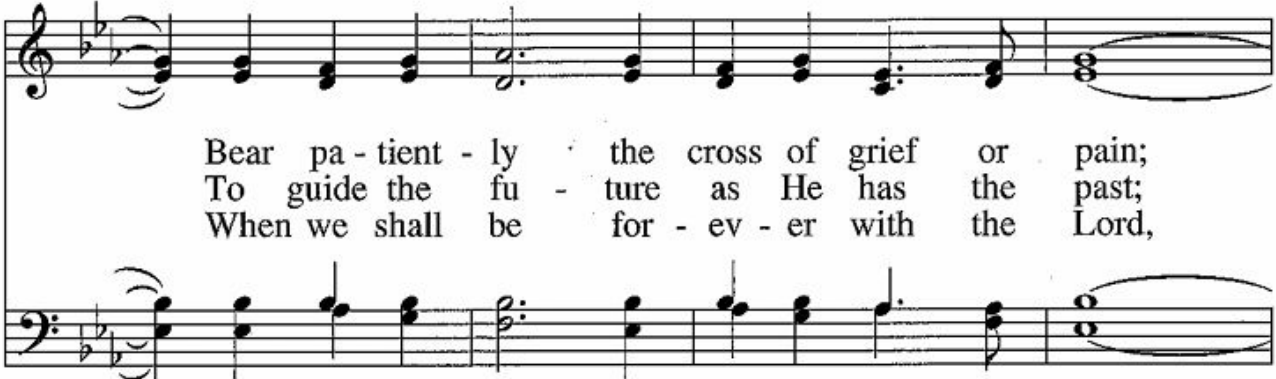


Let us find our rest in Thee.
Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne. A - men.


Be Still, My Soul




1. Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side!
2. Be still, my soul: thy God doth un - der - take
3. Be still, my soul: the hour is has - t'ning on



Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain;
To guide the fu - ture as He has the past;
When we shall be for - ev - er with the Lord,



Leave to thy God to or - der and pro - vide:
Thy hope, thy con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake:
When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone,



In ev - 'ry change He faith - ful will re - main.
All now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.
Sor-row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.

Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heav'n - ly Friend
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,

Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be - low.
All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son,
our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy
Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead,
and buried; he descended into hell; the
third day he arose again from the dead; he
ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the
right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the
quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the one
Holy universal Christian Church; the
communion of saints; the forgiveness of
sins; the resurrection of the body; and the
life everlasting. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

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 for ever. Amen.



DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom all blessings
flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.



KYRIE

Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Congregation: **Lord, have mercy upon us.***

Minister: Christ, have mercy upon us.

*Congregation: **Christ, have mercy upon us.***

Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Congregation: **Lord, have mercy upon us.***