



Pine Street Church

Embrace Everyone. Inspire Life. Create More.

1st Sunday of Advent

Sunday Morning Worship: At Home Edition, week 36

November 29th, 2020

"This is the irrational season
when love blooms bright and wild.
Had Mary been filled with reason
there'd have been no room for the child."

—Madeleine L'Engle, "After the Annunciation"

Prelude & Song – O Come, O Come Emmanuel

*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 Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save
and give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
and drive away the shades of night,*

*and pierce the clouds and bring us light!
Rejoice! rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O come, Desire of nations,
bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife and quarrels cease;
fill all the world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!*

Welcome & Greeting – Rev. Andrew Daugherty

Advent Prayer of Invocation – Rev. Andrew Daugherty

God of light and hope, of darkness and dawn, be with us in the shadows, even and especially in the valley of the shadow of death. Show us the way, and let us be lanterns of hope for others. Keep us awake and alert to your coming. Tear open the heavens; let the mountains of despair quake at your presence. Come, Jesus, come. Amen.

Taizé – Wait for the Lord

*Wait for the Lord
Whose day is near
Wait for the Lord.
Keep watch, take heart*

Lighting of the Advent Candle— The Daughertys

Maya Angelou's Freedom Poetry of Advent – "A Plagued Journey"

Reading from the Old Testament – Isaiah 64:1-9

The Gospel Lesson – Mark 13: 24-37

Pastoral Meditation - Maya Angelou & the Freedom Poetry of Advent, Part I

Rev. Andrew Daugherty

Musical Meditation – *Christmas Hymn by Billy Childs*

Ryan T. Connell, piano

Prayer of the People – Rev. Andrew Daugherty

Benediction – Rev. Andrew Daugherty

Postlude & Song – Come, Ye Disconsolate

*Come, ye disconsolate, where'er ye languish;
come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel;
here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish;
earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal.*

*Joy of the desolate, light of the straying,
hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure,
here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying,
"Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot cure."*

*Here see the Bread of Life; see waters flowing
forth from the throne of God, pure from above;
come to the feast of love; come, ever knowing
earth has no sorrow but heaven can remove.*



WEEK ONE HOPE

LIGHT

One Candle

SING

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

"Come Ye Disconsolate"

READ

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence. + Isaiah 64:1

Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. + Mark 13:33

Angelou's poem, "A Plagued Journey." (The Complete Poetsy, p. 198)

REFLECT

Particularly during Advent, Christians are called to dwell in the shadows. After all, it's in the dark that we light candles, since that's where they'll do the most good. With this in mind, instead of simply "lighting a candle of hope," first turn toward specific shadows of hopelessness in our lives, in our neighbors' lives, and around the world. With Angelou, remember that hope and despair often ebb and flow with our days, and that many people struggle with sorrow and depression. Then keep watch, strike a match, pray, and sing.

PRAY

God of light and hope, of darkness and dawn, be with us in the shadows, even and especially in the valley of the shadow of death. Show us the way, and let us be lanterns of hope for others. Keep us awake and alert to your coming. Tear open the heavens, let the mountains of despair quake at your presence. Come, Jesus, come. Amen.

PRACTICES

- Light a candle. Say a prayer. Breathe in hope; breathe out hope.
- Call or connect with a relative or friend who lives far away, and sing his or her favorite Christmas carol together.
- Conversation starters: In your most difficult times, what gives you hope? What signs of hope, near or far, have you seen this week?
- More light: Read "Prayer" by Maya Angelou, and "Hope is the thing with feathers" by Emily Dickinson.
- Many nonprofits do work that boils down to giving people hope, from Amnesty International to mental health organizations to refugee advocates. Choose one, set aside an hour to research them, and find out how you can help. Give the gift of hope!
- Particularly in an age of pandemic, hope can be hard to come by — and criticism can be a source of solace. Get out and up as high as you can: on a rooftop, or a hilltop, or a mountaintop. "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down..."

Worship Leaders:

Rev. Andrew Daugherty, *senior pastor*

Ryan Connell, *music director, piano*

David L'Hommedieu, *director of worship and arts, video producer*