

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

† CALL TO WORSHIP

L: As faithful followers in faith, we know that the time is here, and it is the moment for us to wake from sleep.

**P: For salvation is nearer to us than when we became believers.**

L: The night is far gone, the day is near.

**P: Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light with hope and thanksgiving.**

† HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH #196

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Ever present God, you taught us that the night is far spent and the day is at hand. Grant that we may ever be found watching for the coming of your Son. Save us from undue love of the world, that we may wait with patient hope for the day of the Lord, and so abide in him, that when he shall appear, we may not be ashamed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 64:1-9

<sup>1</sup> O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—<sup>2</sup>as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! <sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence. <sup>4</sup>From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. <sup>5</sup>You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. <sup>6</sup>We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. <sup>7</sup>There is no one who calls on your name or attempts to take hold of you, for you have hidden your face from us and have

delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. <sup>8</sup>Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

CHILDREN’S TIME

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 13:24-31

<sup>24</sup> “But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. <sup>26</sup>“Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup> Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. <sup>28</sup>“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.”

MESSAGE

“Are We Truly Ready?”

Rev. David Magruder

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

INVITATION & CONFESSION

UMH pg. 12

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

HOLY COMMUNION

† HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

UMH #213

† BENEDICTION



Family  
*Christmas*  
Dinner