

CHURCH OF CHRIST UNITING

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 10am-1pm, Thursdays 2pm-5pm

1st Sunday of Advent **12-1-2024**

HANGING OF THE GREENS SERVICE

PRELUDE

WELCOME

HYMN "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" **UMH# 196**

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

Significance of the Candles (Jackson Mead)

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Today we come together to prepare for the birthday of a King

P: Today we make ready our welcome for God's only son,
Jesus of Nazareth

L: We begin this special and holy season of Advent, the season of going toward the birth of Christ.

P: As we renew the special meaning of the Advent Season, the
Season of going toward new hope and Eternal Life.

L: Let us clear our minds and open our hearts to the coming of the Lord.

P: Let us also honor his birth and adorning our church for the
coming of our King.

L: Let our songs and symbols represent our personal rededication to the glory of God and the manifestation of his love through his Son, Jesus Christ.

P: For God so loved the world that he gave his only son that
whosoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

OPENING PRAYER (IN UNISON)

Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may celebrate aright the commemoration of the nativity and may await with joy the coming in glory of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

YOUNG DISCIPLES' TIME

Ringing of the Bells - (COCU Young Disciples)

Significance of the Bells (Pastor Chris)

A Bright Star Appears

Significance of the Star (Pastor Chris)

HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" **UMH #211**
(v 1&7)

THE PROPHECY OF HIS COMING

SCRIPTURE READING **Isaiah 9:6-7**

ADVENT WREATH

Significance of the Wreath (Cinday Talbot)

(During the Reading - Wreaths are hung)

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING **Cindy Talbot**

HYMN "Lift Up Your Hands, Ye Mighty Gates" **UMH #213**

THE BIRTH OF THE CHRIST CHILD

SCRIPTURE READING **Luke 2:1-7**

Why "Hanging of the Greens" (Carol Simpson)

HYMN "The Holly and the Ivy" **See Insert**

(During the Hymn - Ivy & Holly will be brought forward to the altar)

ADORATION OF THE CHILD

SCRIPTURE READING **Luke 2:8-17**

Significant of the Poinsettia (Missy Belcher)

OUR CELEBRATION TODAY

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:9-14

Significance of the Evergreen Tree (Brian Howser)

CAROL

"O Christmas Tree"

See Insert

(Congregation is invited to come forward to place an ornament on the tree)

Significance of Historical Event (Bill Stevens)

Significance of Advent (JoAnn Mead)

WE RESPOND

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

UMC# 70

CHOIR ANTHEM

Significance of the Cathedral Bells (Pastor Chris)

HYMN

"Go Tell it on the Mountain"

**UMH# 251
(Refrain x2)**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP
FOLLOWING THE SERVICE.**

*** (Those who are able, please stand)**

UMH (The United Methodist Hymnal)

FWS (The Faith We Sing)
