



**November 28, 2021
First Sunday in Advent
Liturgists:**

8:30am Skip Klingman; 10:30am Charles Dillard

***Please Stand**

Prelude

Sophia Lee

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Rev. Chuck Horton

Announcements

Liturgist

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Liturgist

Leader: "How can I know this?" said Zechariah, "For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years."

People: "How can this be?" said Mary, "For I have no husband."

Leader: "And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him."

People: "But she was greatly troubled at the saying and considered in her mind what sort of a greeting this might be."

Leader: But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son."

People: And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold you will conceive in your womb and bear a son."

Leader: The angel said, "And you shall call his name John."

People: The angel said, "And you shall call his name Jesus."

Leader: The angel said, "For WITH GOD nothing will be impossible."

People: "For with God NOTHING will be impossible."

All: "For with God nothing will be IMPOSSIBLE."

*Opening Hymn

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

UMH 196

UNISON PRAYER

Liturgist

Leader: Let us pray together:

In the moments when we can least believe in him, God comes. In the moments when our faith has been stretched to the breaking point, God speaks. In the moments when we do not expect anything holy, God takes us by surprise. He calls us by name. He tells us something that is beyond belief. He invites us into a whole new realm of possibility. He tells us it's time...time to expect the impossible. Zechariah was told to name his promised son, "John." "John" means "Yahweh is gracious. Yahweh gives favor." Mary was told to name her promised son, "Jesus." "Jesus" means "God saves. God heals. God restores." In the moment we do not believe in hope, God says, "It's time to hope!" Lord, on this Sunday, the first Sunday of Advent help your people hope again. Help me hope again! In Jesus' name. Amen.

First Sunday of Advent

Today we begin our celebration of Advent. On these four Sundays leading up to Christmas, we will rejoice in the great gift that is ours in Jesus Christ.

To help us celebrate, we will be lighting the candles of the Advent wreath.

The candles signify that Jesus is the Light of the World. The evergreens remind us that He is life and brings life to us. All these are arranged in a circle because life in Christ has no end.

Each Sunday we will light an additional candle. Then on Christmas Eve, we will light all the candles, including the center one, the Christ candle. As we do, we will rejoice that Christ has come to us. He is Immanuel...God with us.

On this first Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of hope.

Hope is our assurance that God will finish all He has started.

Hope is our confidence that He will do all He has promised.

All the promises of God are fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

He is our hope, today and forever! (2 Corinthians 1:20)

Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! (2 Corinthians 9:15)

Choir Anthem	"Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming"	A German Carol
*Scripture	Luke 1:5-45	Rev. Chuck Horton
Sermon	"Expecting The Impossible"	Rev. Chuck Horton
Children's Moment		Mason Carman
	(Children return to seats)	
*Doxology		UMH 94
Congregational Prayer Time		
*Hymn of Invitation	"Hymn of Promise"	UMH 707
*Benediction		
*Parting Song	"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"	UMH 211 vs 1,3
Postlude		Sophia Lee