

"Raise your voice... do not be afraid." — The Messenger

Advent Week 1, Nov 29, 2020
"I Believe in the Sun: Hope for Tomorrow"

Prelude

Crossing the Threshold

I believe in the sun, I believe in the sun,
even when, even when it's not shining.

I believe in the sun, I believe in the sun,
even when, even when it's not shining.

Advent Candle Lighting and Prayer

Prayer: (Missionary)

Holy One, we thank you for the glimpses we catch of your gift of untiring hope. Even in the midst of fear, of challenge, of struggle—even when our view is obscured by clouds of doubt, ignite the flame of hope within us,

People: ... that we might glow with its brilliance from the inside out.

Pastor: You are invited to light a blue candle, the candle of Hope at this time.

Children's Time to Shine: "This Little Light of Mine"

Celebration in Music (Hovey Corbin)

Scripture Reading *Isaiah 40: 1-11*

Message

Litany of Belief

Leader: I believe that we have looked the other way too many times AND

***People:* I believe that we are capable of facing reality and working for change.**

Leader: I believe that our fear of difference has robbed us of compassion AND

***People:* I believe that we can look deeper and hold onto the things that we have in common.**

Leader: I believe that our fear of doubt makes us stop asking tough questions AND

***People:* I believe that asking tough questions in the face of injustice is faithful.**

Leader: We believe, even when we are discouraged.

***People:* We believe, that when we are discouraged, raising our voices for justice will offer us hope!**

Missionary Moment/Offertory

Doxology [to the tune of "Give Thanks"]

Believe, with a hopeful heart!
Believe, and shine your light!

Believe, because the song we sing is sung for all!

And now let the weak say, "I am strong;"
let the poor say, "I am rich
because of what our God has done for us."
Believe!

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral and Lord's Prayer

Carol of Unity and Hope

Benediction/Dismissal

We wait for justice
but we do not wait to work for change;

We wait for restored health
but we do not wait to work to heal;

We wait for wholeness
but we do not wait to work at binding brokenness;

We wait for peace
but we do not wait to work to eliminate hatred.

And so, my friends, like bells ringing out the news
that the sun still shines even on cloudy days,
fill the night left by sadness with messages of hope.
Go into your lives humming the tunes that keep that hope alive in you
and that spur you on in your work of justice and reconciliation.
Raise your voices and repeat after me...
"do not be afraid!"
"do not be afraid!"
Amen!

Break-Outs

Announcements

In order to institute another level of safety, we will not hold an on-site worship service today or next Sunday, December 6th.

If you have a particular need due to COVID-19, the church has resources to help you. Contact the Pastor (dmills@mountainsidemethodist.org) or Anne Merkley, chair of the Missions Committee, at annemerk@yahoo.com or 505-401-5345

Send prayer requests to prayer@mountainsidemethodist.org. Please use that address only for prayer requests.

The November-December Upper Room devotionals are available at the front door of the church.

The season of Advent begins November 29th. Advent wreath kits are available to you from the church. You can use the kit to create your own home Advent wreath. During each of our on-line Advent Sunday services, you will be invited to light candles in your Advent wreath as we prepare for the celebration of Christmas. A suggested donation of \$10 will cover the cost of the kit.

Remember to make a short video of you "passing" a lighted candle from your left to your right. Send the video to the church office and we will edit the various videos together as part of our Advent worship. An instructional video is available on the church's Facebook page.

Giving Tuesday, refers to the Tuesday after Thanksgiving in the United States, is December 1st. It is a movement to create an international day of charitable giving at the beginning of the Christmas and holiday season. It is simply a day in which you will receive a lot of advertising and reminders to be generous. You can make a gift on Giving Tuesday using the donate button on our church website. All gifts (not otherwise directed) received on Giving Tuesday through our church website will become part of our Christmas offering to our missionary partners. Please consider making a special donation to our missionaries on December 1st, Giving Tuesday.

Happening the week of Sunday, November 29th through Sunday, December 6th, 2020

Tea With Christy Monday Nov 30 at 3:00 PM.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/95413183386?pwd=L01ic3JVWSs1UklrTFhRM0d2NVFqUT09>

Dec 1, Trustees meeting at 6:00 PM. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86051625698>

Keeping It Real with Dan and Connie Patterson Wednesdays at 10:00 AM.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81609385497?pwd=TUZhVGhPOWVNK2ZxWjZpaForcGkydz09>

Meeting ID: 816 0938 5497

Passcode: 499468

Fellowship Sunday School class will meet Wednesdays at 4:00 PM. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/688353316>

Advent Evening Prayer, Wednesday, 6:00 PM.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89228201386?pwd=b0tHaGY3anNZNC9DcFZCUTNnazNhZz09>

Kids Connection Children's Ministry, Wednesdays at 6 to 6:30 PM.

Meeting ID: 714 3951 8280 Passcode: GOD

Tea With Christy Thursdays at 3:00 PM.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/95413183386?pwd=L01ic3JVWSs1UklrTFhRM0d2NVFqUT09>

Pastor's Bible Study, Thursday, 6:00 PM. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85015830206>