

St. Paul's

United Church of Christ
Evansville, Indiana

First Sunday of Advent November 29, 2020

Welcome

Rev. Mary Hurley

Prelude

Hyfrydol (Prichard, arr. Hobbs)

Rick Hobbs

Call to Worship (responsively)

Pastor Mary: Awake, people of God, and stay alert for Christ's coming. Grace to you and peace from God who sent Jesus to us.

Congregation: Make your ways known to us, O God. Show us once more your awesome presence.

Pastor Mary: We are all God's people; no one is excluded. Come together as God's family for worship and prayer.

Congregation: Let the mountains quake for you, mighty God. Let the nations tremble in awe and reverence.

Pastor Mary: Praise the One who grants us the gift of life. Give thanks for God's continuing faithfulness.

Congregation: Heaven and earth will pass away, but the Word of God is true for all times and places.

Invocation (in unison)

Amid threatening clouds of anger and selfish strife, come, O God, to bring light into our days of worry and anxiety. Send a confident hope. Enrich us with spiritual gifts that transcend disappointments and spill out in generous compassion for all your suffering children. Meet us today where we are so we may be equipped for trials yet to come and for joys yet to be revealed. In Jesus' Name. Amen

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Lighting the First Candle of the Advent Wreath
with musical response

Special Music *Come, Oh Redeemer Come* (Ortega) Katie Maurer

Morning Prayer
Concluding with **The Lord's Prayer**

Call to Offering

Offertory *Like a Child* (Damon) Rick Hobbs

Offertory Prayer (in unison)

Gracious God, we give our best to you, not out of guilt or fear, but with gratitude and faith. You have been our support in times of need. Every breath we take is a gift from you. We would be awake and watchful for opportunities to make a difference, to help others be alert for you presence, to value life in all its fullness, and to learn to care. We dedicate these symbols of thankfulness and all the days of our lives to those purposes. Amen

Scriptures Isaiah 64: 1-9 NRSV
Mark 13: 24-37 NRSV

Sermon "Don't Get Caught Sleeping on the Job" Rev. Mary Hurley

Prayer

Benediction

Postlude *Wondrous Love* (Southern Harmony) Rick Hobbs