

Grace United Church of Christ

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, November 29, 2020

Worship



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Worship

We Gather

Prelude "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus",
Rowland H. Prichard (1887), arr. Mark Hayes Jonas Dawson

Intro Video

Welcome

Ringing of the Bell

Preparing of our Hearts

Call to Worship

Leader: Christ, God's gift to the world, shall come:

People: For those who feel despair will know hope.

Leader: For those who are oppressed will know freedom

People: For those who are lonely will know love.

Leader: For those who are suffering will know inner peace.

People: O Christ, Lord of the world, your time is now!

All: Fill our hearts with joy!

Opening Hymn "Come, O Long-Expected Jesus" NCH # 122 (insert)

Opening Prayer

Lighting the 1st Advent Candle:

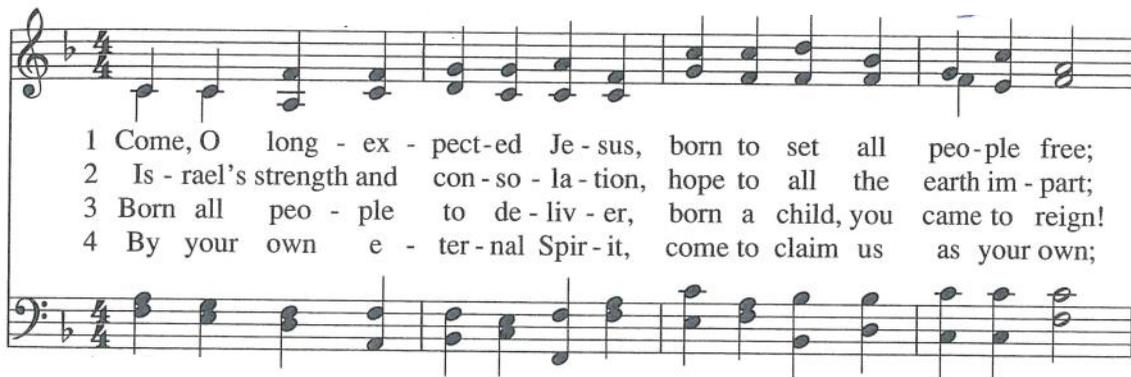
Spoken Response: **Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Reflection Video Advent Hope

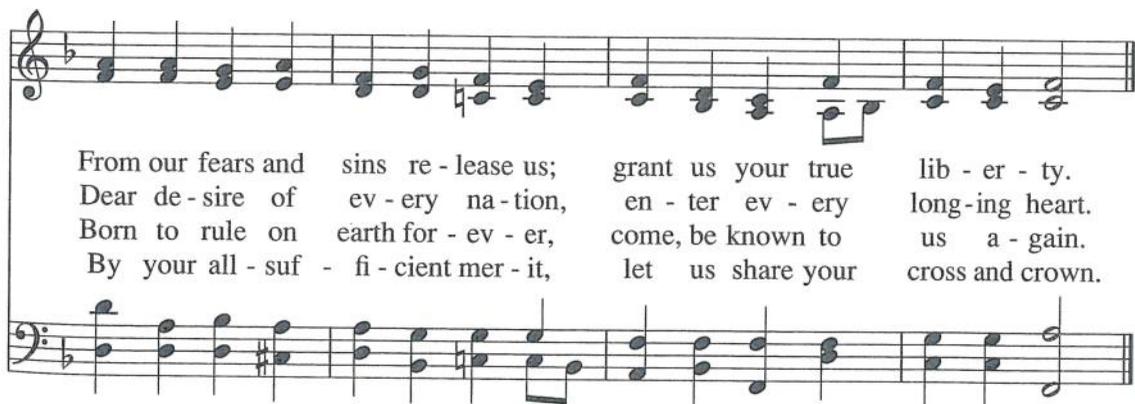
Come, O Long-Expected Jesus

122

Charles Wesley, 1744; alt.



1 Come, O long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set all peo-ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope to all the earth im - part;
3 Born all peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, you came to reign!
4 By your own e - ter - nal Spir - it, come to claim us as your own;



From our fears and sins re - lease us; grant us your true lib - er - ty.
Dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, en - ter ev - ery long - ing heart.
Born to rule on earth for - ev - er, come, be known to us a - gain.
By your all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, let us share your cross and crown.

Charles Wesley, the brother of John, was one of the students known as "Methodists" at Oxford University. He wrote hymns for every occasion. This is from his small collection Hymns for the Nativity.

Tune: STUTTGART 8.7.8.7.
Melody attrib. to Christian F. Witt (1660-1716)
from Psalmodia Sacra, Gotha, 1715
Alternate tune: IN BABILONE

We Listen

First Reading	Isaiah 64:1-9	
Special Music	The Wexford Carol", Traditional English Carol, arr. Mark Hayes	Jonas Dawson
Gospel	Mark 13:24-37	
Children's Message		
Sermon	The Visiting God	Rev. Rob Apgar-Taylor

We Respond

Pastoral Prayers

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

We are Sent

Announcements

Closing Blessing

Closing Hymn	"Lift up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates"	NCH # 117 (insert)
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Dismissal

Ring of the bell

Postlude	"Listen For His Coming", arr. Mark Hayes	Jonas Dawson
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# Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates

117

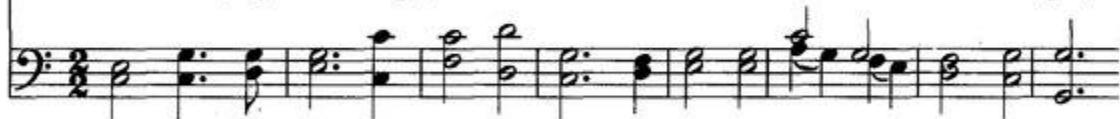
Georg Weissel, 1641

Ps. 24:7-10

Transl. Catherine Winkworth, 1865; alt.



- 1 Lift up your heads, O might-y gates; be-hold the glo - rious Rul - er waits!
- 2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a tem - ple, set a - part
- 3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to you; here, Christ, a - bide!
- 4 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and no - bler life be - gin;



The Sov - ereign One is draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.  
From earth - ly use for heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.  
Let me your in - ner pres - ence feel; your grace and love in me re - veal.  
Your Ho - ly Spir - it guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.



Georg Weissel, a Lutheran pastor, served a church in Königsberg, East Prussia. He wrote some twenty hymns, most of them for the great festivals of the church year. This hymn was written for Advent.

Tune: TRURO L.M.  
Thomas Williams' Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789

# Advent Book Study

*Making Room* by Ed Robb

Thursdays @ 7 PM via Zoom

(see below)

Dec 3rd, 10th, and 17th

This four-week study explores the warmth of welcome at Christmas following interactions with the Holy Family, The Shepherds, and the Magi. Learn how to make room in your heart for God and neighbor this Christmas.

The book can be found at [cokesbury.com](http://cokesbury.com) or on Google Playbooks

Join us and invite a friend!

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Here is the zoom invite

Rob Apgar-Taylor is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Making Room Advent Study

Time: Dec 3, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Thu, 3 occurrence(s)

Dec 3, 2020 07:00 PM

Dec 10, 2020 07:00 PM

Dec 17, 2020 07:00 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

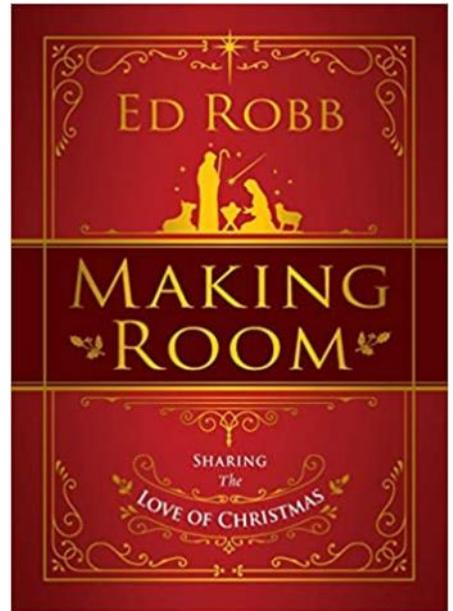
Weekly: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZErdOmqrDkoG9R8ajphDIJZ4Uepo7nZ_WMm/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGtqDggGNaxshiHRpwMBIjCc-rzpnPbJfpxvxB7vEyh3SynMYtdHlr0oHuLv

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85630222210?pwd=UHJaR1pOMjMxUIF2aGVrSEJZa3VIQT09>

Meeting ID: 856 3022 2210

Passcode: 968920





Order and dedicate a
Poinsettia for Advent or
Make a donation to the
Frederick Food Bank

As we look to the advent and Christmas season, we normally look to poinsettias in memory or honor of a loved one. This year has been a different year so we are doing things a bit differently. We will have a limited number of poinsettias in the chancel (probably 12 or so); but, with restrictions the way they are, it seems silly to order 40 poinsettias for a nearly empty church with no Church tour and frankly no way to deliver them to shut-ins afterward. If you would like a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one, you are welcome to have that be one of our 12.

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**To ORDER and DEDICATE a POINSETTIA**

Email [admin@grucc.com](mailto:admin@grucc.com) to place your order and dedicate your poinsettia. First come first serve for the 12 poinsettias.

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POINSETTIAS are ordered through The Dutch Plan Farm

6.5” Pot Single Plant/Multi-Bloom Poinsettia - \$11.00

(Red, White, Pink, Marble, Burgundy, Monet, Red Glitter)

or MAIL THIS PAGE TO THE CHURCH OFFICE WITH YOUR CHECK

Name: _____ email: _____ ph# _____

How many? _____ 6.5” pot(s) at \$11 each = \$ _____ TOTAL

Dedicated to: _____

(The church office will place the order and the plants will be delivered to the church and on display during the Advent and Christmas season)

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*BUT..... this year has caused great hardship for people in our community. What I am recommending is that instead of poinsettias, you donate the cost (or more) of the poinsettia to the church and we will make a donation in that amount to the Frederick Food Bank.*

(see next page)

# **Frederick Food Bank**

<https://www.cityoffrederickmd.gov/462/Food-Bank-Program>

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To PLEDGE your DONATION to the Frederick Food Bank

Email admin@grucc.com to pledge a donation to the Frederick Food Bank and dedicate your donation. Or make your **donation by check and mail** to the church office or go to <http://www.grucc.com/giving.html> and use the **PayPal** button.

or MAIL THIS PAGE TO THE CHURCH OFFICE WITH YOUR CHECK

Name: _____ email: _____ ph# _____

Frederick Food Bank Donation amount: \$ _____ TOTAL

Dedicated to: _____

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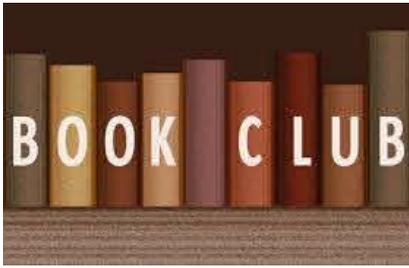
*Flowers are lovely, but we can easily give \$400 to help feed people this way. And this year there is such need.*

*So if you'd like a poinsettia, by all means!*

*But, if you really don't care about a poinsettia and you'd like to still donate, we will gladly make the donation in memory or honor of your loved one.*

*Thanks! Pastor Rob*





## Grace UCC (Virtual) Book Club

Wednesdays @ 7PM

*Join us if you'd like to socialize, stretch your mind, or just leave the daily grind of life behind for a bit.*

*We start a new book at the beginning of December.*

**beginning  
Wednesday, December 2nd**

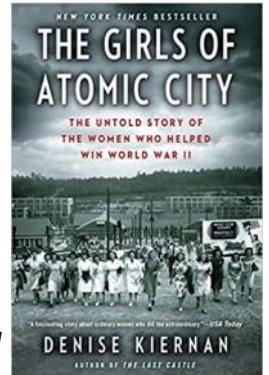
Book title:

### **The Girls of Atomic City by Denise Kiernan**

(Read the first 4 chapters for discussion on that date)

*An incredible true story of the top-secret World War II town of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and the young women brought there unknowingly to help build the atomic bomb.*

*At the height of World War II, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, was home to 75,000 residents, and consumed more electricity than New York City, yet it was shrouded in such secrecy that it did not appear on any map. Thousands of civilians, many of them young women from small towns across the U.S., were recruited to this secret city, enticed by the promise of solid wages and war-ending work. What were they actually doing there? Very few knew. The purpose of this mysterious government project was kept a secret from the outside world and from the majority of the residents themselves.*



*Drawing from the voices and experiences of the women who lived and worked in Oak Ridge, The Girls of Atomic City rescues a remarkable, forgotten chapter of World War II from obscurity. Denise Kiernan captures the spirit of the times through these women: their pluck, their desire to contribute, and their enduring courage*

Please Email the church office at [admin@grucc.com](mailto:admin@grucc.com) to be added to the list for email notices.

***Look for your all church email or check the church website for zoom link.***

Questions? Contact Missy Moxley at: [nehoneybee@gmail.com](mailto:nehoneybee@gmail.com)  
or Doris Moxley at: [Dorismoxley@gmail.com](mailto:Dorismoxley@gmail.com)



## *Grace United Church of Christ*

November 12, 2020

Dear friends,

These past few weeks have been so wonderful to have some of us able to come together again to worship. But as you are aware, the Governor has put more restrictions in place effective yesterday, due to the severe rise in Covid-19 infections in our area.

For this reason, we have decided to suspend in-person worship for the time being. We hope that it will only be for a few weeks, unlike the last time. We have been blessed with a superior AV system that allows for high-quality worship participation from home. Yes, it's important to be together. Yes, it's rough thinking about starting advent apart. But none of that is worth losing anyone because we were careless with each other.

So please, let's make this as short a time as possible. Wear your masks, stay home when you can, and above all else, stay safe.

If you are in need of something, please reach out and let us know and we will do our best to get it to you.

*Blessings in this crazy time.*

*Pastor Rob +*



## *Grace United Church of Christ*

*An Open and Affirming Congregation*  
25 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Frederick, Maryland, 21701  
301-662-3312 ~ Office Hours: 9AM-3PM/M-F  
[admin@grucc.com](mailto:admin@grucc.com) ~ [www.grucc.com](http://www.grucc.com)

|                                                           |                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor, Pastor                         | <a href="mailto:pastorrob@grucc.com">pastorrob@grucc.com</a>         |
| Jessica Townsley, Youth Minister                          |                                                                      |
| Jonas Dawson, Director of Music                           | <a href="mailto:music@grucc.com">music@grucc.com</a>                 |
| James Taylor, Bell Choir Director                         | <a href="mailto:bells@grucc.com">bells@grucc.com</a>                 |
| Taylor Whidden, Jennie Huntoon, Donald Toms, James Taylor |                                                                      |
| Choir Section Leaders                                     |                                                                      |
| Joan Princler, Nursery Attendant                          | <a href="mailto:joan.dancer@comcast.net">joan.dancer@comcast.net</a> |
| Mat Lutman, Caretaker                                     | <a href="mailto:trainhouse13@gmail.com">trainhouse13@gmail.com</a>   |
| Sarah Petermann, Church Admin                             | <a href="mailto:admin@grucc.com">admin@grucc.com</a>                 |

### SUNDAY WORSHIP – 11:00 AM — Virtual

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of every month.

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Scripture Reader: ONLINE  
Children's Message: N/A  
Children's Church: N/A  
Altar Guild: N/A

*If you would like to serve as a greeter, or host fellowship time after worship, please add your name to the sign up sheet in the Good Shepherd Room.*

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**

