

**SERMON** “Advent or Apocalypse” Rev. Michele R. Goff

**DESCRIPTION OF PRAISE**

...through Jesus Christ be all glory forever. *Amen.*

**\*HYMN #85** “Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah” Wold, 1984

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - Unison**

*Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.27*

*The one sufficient revelation of God is Jesus Christ,  
the Word of God incarnate, to whom the Holy Spirit  
bears unique and authoritative witness through the Holy Scriptures,  
which are received and obeyed as the written word of God.*

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - Responsive**

Watching and waiting for the coming of Christ, we pray for the promise of a new creation, saying: Come quickly, Lord; *our hope is in you.*

**LORD’S PRAYER - Unison**

*Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done, on earth as 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 and the power and  
the glory, forever, Amen.*

*See insert for Eucharistic Prayers*

*Sending*

**\*HYMN #82** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” Wesley, 1744

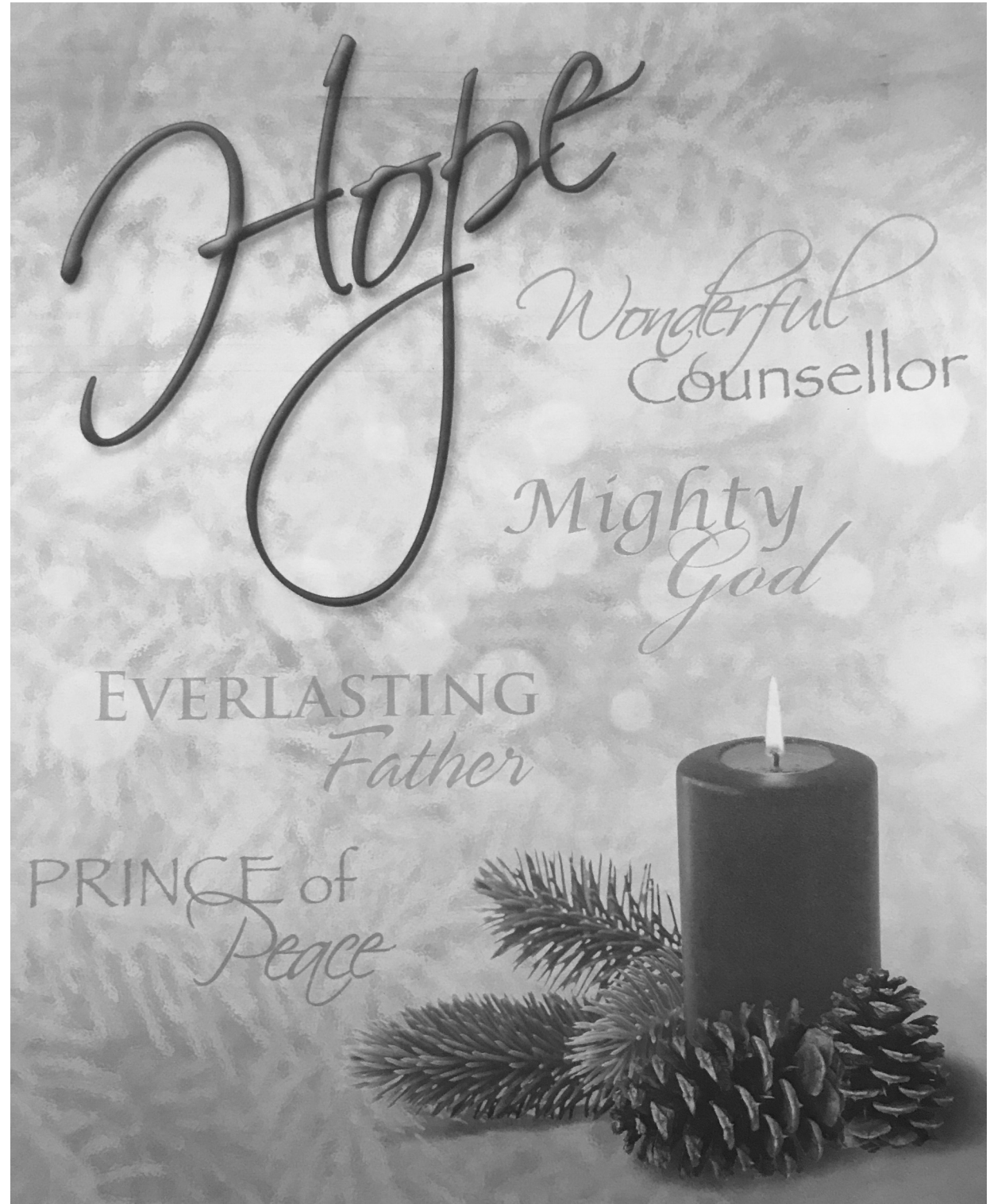
**\*BLESSING AND CHARGE**

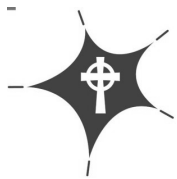
May the God of peace make you holy and the power of the Spirit sustain you until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Alleluia!*

**\*CLOSING RESPONSE #95** “Prepare the Way of the Lord” Taize, 1984

**\*POSTLUDE** Selected

*“Serving God, Honoring Creation, Embracing Differences”*





(\*) Please rise in body or in spirit.  
**Bold italic letters** indicate congregational responses.

## Service for the Lord's Day

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2019

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Jesus is the Lord of Light, our only hope of glory.

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God of wisdom and light, teach us your ways of strength and gentleness. Amen.

## Gathering

### PRELUDE

Selected

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Michele R. Goff

### INTROIT

*“Ready the Way”*

Chancel Choir

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP *(Responsive)*

Liturgist - Claudia Morgan-Gray

Come all who seek truth—let us go up to the Lord's house,  
**that we might learn holy ways and follow right paths.**  
Come—all nations, all peoples—stream through open gates,  
**that we might gather in the hallways of justice, the courts of peace.**  
Come—children of God—let us walk in the light of the Lord!  
**With hope in our hearts, let us worship God.**

\*HYMN #107 *“Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn”* Haugen, 1983

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

As we light our first Advent candle,  
**we pray for holy hope of God.**  
Come now, O Child of Mary.  
**Come now, O Prince of Hope.**

HYMN #89 *“For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits”* (vs. 1 & 2)

### CONFESSION

### *SILENT REFLECTION*

*(A time of silence for personal prayer)*

### UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Almighty God, You set before us the way of goodness and beckon us to follow you, but we disregard your teachings and disobey your word.*

*You call people of every land to dwell in harmony, but we sow division and harvest discord. You command us to craft tools that sustain life, but we cling to weapons that damage and destroy. Forgive us, Lord.  
Your creation yearns for wholeness; your people long for justice and peace.  
Keep us ever watchful and awaken us to your ways as we wait in hope for the light of the world.*

### LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

*“Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us.”*

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! *Thanks be to God.*

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you all; *And, also with you.*

### \*GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

## Word

### \*~\*~\*~\*~CHILDREN'S MOMENT~\*~\*~\*~

Our younger Christians are invited to come forward for their special time. After, children are welcome to stay in the sanctuary for worship, or may choose to go to our supervised playroom.

### ANTHEM

*“Light of the World”*

Chancel Choir

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

...through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 2: 1-5

Bibles,p.594/LG.p.773

...The word of God for the people of God. *Thanks be to God.*

### GREEK SCRIPTURE

Romans 13: 11-14

Bibles, p.152/LG. p.197

...but the word of the Lord stands forever. *Thanks be to God.*

### \*HYMN #106

*“Prepare the Way, O Zion”*

Nelson, 1958

### GOSPEL SCRIPTURE

Matthew 24: 36-44

Bibles, p.26/LG.p.33

This is the word of truth, the gospel of our salvation. *Thanks be to God.*