

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY Light of the World Ensemble

*DOXOLOGY #607

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Eternal God, as we wait for the fulfillment of your reign,
use these gifts and the gifts of our lives to bring justice to those who are oppressed,
to set free those who are in prison, to lift up those who are bowed down,
and to uphold those who are vulnerable. Amen.

— Sending —

*HYMN #105 People, Look East

*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!*
Prepare the way of the Lord! *Amen.*

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE O Holy Night (refrain)

Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise God's holy name.
Christ is the Lord! O praise his name forever!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim! (repeat)

POSTLUDE The Holly and the Ivy Joshua Allen

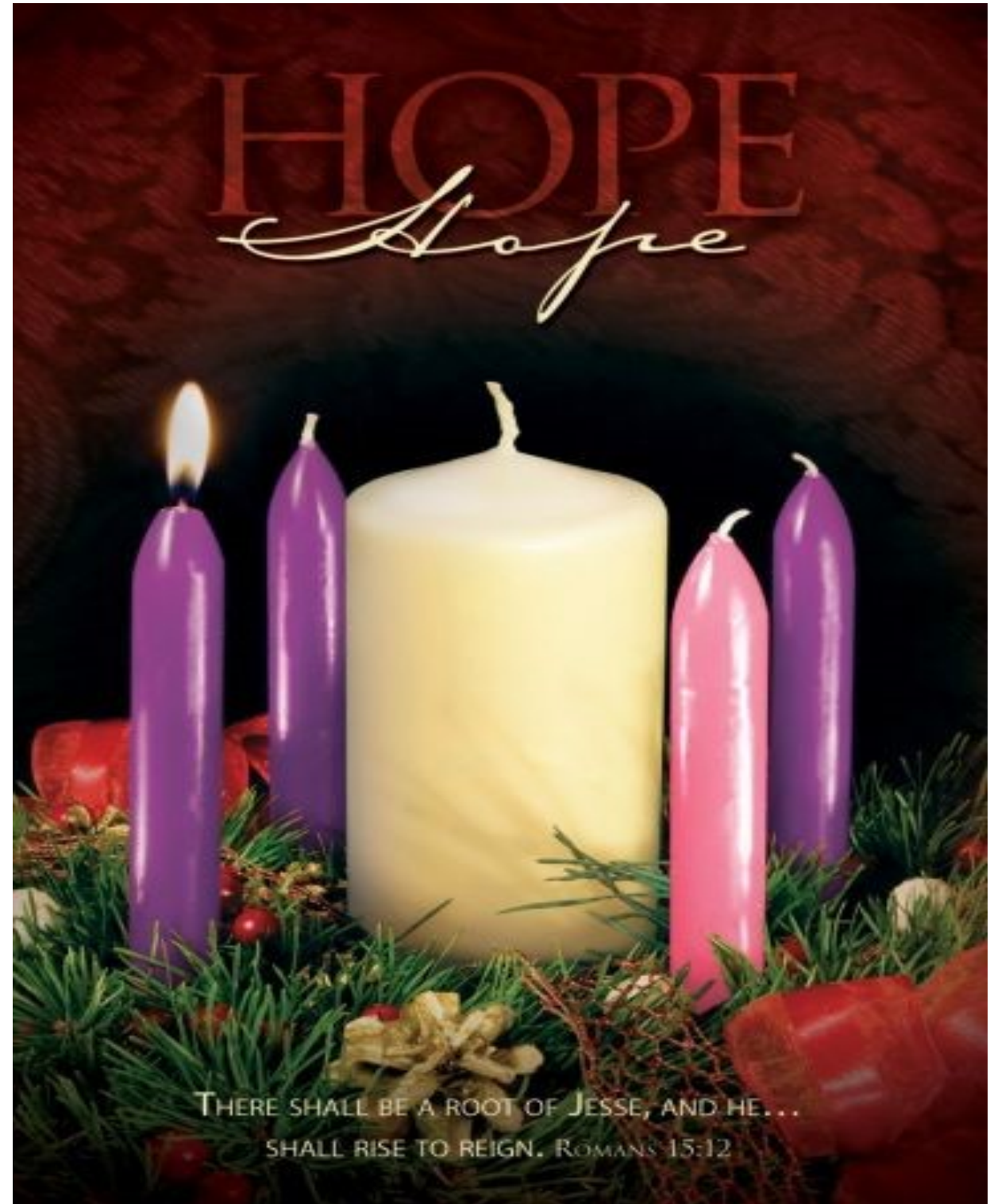
You may sit after the light passes you in the aisle.



Rev. Michele R. Goff.....Pastor
Joshua Allen.....Music Director
Debbi Ricci.....Admin. Assist.



Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences



(* Please rise in body or in spirit
Bold Italic Letters indicate congregational response

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HENDERSON, TX**

1st Sunday of Advent
November 27, 2022

— *Gathering* —

PRELUDE Processional Prelude on Hyfrydol Joshua Allen
WELCOME Rev. Michele Goff

***CANDLE LIGHTING**

The world says, "All is lost." God says, "All is loved."
The darkness says, "The light is dying." The light says, "The fire is catching."
Fear says, "Cover your eyes and your ears." Hope says, "Wait, watch, and listen."
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.

***CANDLE LIGHTING HYMN #314** Christ, Be Our Light (Chorus)
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us go into the house of the Lord!
Let us meet God with joy!
God builds us up like a great city.
May peace be within our walls.

Let us seek the goodness of God;
let us go into the house of the Lord!

***HYMN #82** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

CONFESSION

O God, we are steeped in a world of violence.
War is one of the first things we learn, and we let it work its way into our lives.
Your promises of peace sound like impossible dreams,
and we become accustomed to cruelty.
Forgive us. Wrest our weapons from our hands,
and show us how beautiful life can be when you forge them into instruments of peace.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

***GLORIA #113 (CHORUS)**

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

— *Word* —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 2:1-5 Bible p. 594, LG p. 773

A voice is crying in the wilderness: Listen to the word of the Lord.

EPISTLE READING Romans 13:11-14 Bible p. 152, LG p. 197-198

Hear the word of the Lord.

Heaven and earth will pass away but the word of the Lord stands forever. ***Thanks be to God.***

GOSPEL Matthew 24:36-44 Bible p. 26, LG p. 33-34

Hear God's wisdom for us.

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

SERMON Ready? Rev. Michele Goff

ASCRPTION OF PRAISE

— *Response* —

***HYMN #144** In the Bleak Midwinter

*** Affirmation of Faith**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.19

Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus.

His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God.

He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel,

the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity.

He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant

for the reconciliation of the world.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered here, in the house of the Lord, let us pray for the coming of Christ's realm.

God of our salvation, ***hear our prayer.***

... Bring peace, O God, to the world you have made:

the peace that passes understanding and the promise of your new creation;

through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is coming in glory to reign. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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;