

First Congregational Church of Winona

United Church of Christ

First Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m.

November 28, 2021

Prelude

Sandy Todd

Invitation to Worship

Rev. Danielle Bartz

Chimes

Call to Worship

One: Watch! Wait! The day of God is at hand!

Many: **Like the bud on a tree, God's possibilities are about to blossom!**

One: Stay awake! The reign of God is very near.

Many: **We are here, watching and waiting with hope. May God bring justice to all people this very day. We rejoice in God as children of the Light!**

Lighting the Candle of Hope

When the world seems scary

When we try to escape and hide

The Holy invites us to confront fear

That we may find Hope.

Where in the world do we find Hope these days?

Sung Response *(to the tune of O Come, O Come Emmanuel)*

O come and be the hope in all our lives

Though chaos and confusion still survive

We know the path of hate all too well

We need our God with us, Emmanuel!

Rejoice, rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to us

And all things shall be well.

Call for Offering

Anthem

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost! Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

The day of redemption draws near for all who labor but do not eat, for all who are hated for how they love. For all who live with a sense of foreboding, wondering what injury will be inflicted on their bodies because of their bodies. God, we offer these gifts as a taste of the equitable world in You to come. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-37

Translation by Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney

Sermon

"Wonder of Wonders"

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

#110, Red Hymnal

Announcements

Benediction and Blessings

Chimes

Postlude