the PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Until the Dawn

CRY OUT

November 29, 2026, 10:30 am

1st Sunday of Advent

Welcome to worship! Led by the Holy Spirit, we glorify God, nurture the faith with each other, and witness the fullness of Christ's love in the world. Beyond the pews, we hope you will grow in faith with us on Sunday mornings and throughout the week.

Children are welcome in the Sanctuary throughout the service and are encouraged to visit our worship corner in the front left of the Sanctuary and borrow a variety of resources during worship. Childcare is also available for infants through 4-year-olds in the nursery on the 1st floor of the Education Building.

Assisted listening devices are available at the Princess Anne Street side entrance. Restrooms are located underneath the Sanctuary, accessed via the stairs off the porch on the Princess Anne Street side or elevator, or in the Education Building. If you need access to the Ed. Building during worship, please speak to an usher. Our service is livestreamed via YouTube.

We are glad you are here as we give glory to God together!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

✠We rise in body or spirit.
We say words in bold together.

GATHERING

Centering Bells

Welcome and Announcements Natasha Taylor, Faith Formation Coordinator

Prelude *Flute Meditation*

Silent prayer of preparation
God, we come to your house exactly as we are, free to wear our hearts on our sleeves. We cry out and call upon you for we know that you are here, and you are listening. In this may we dare to have hope. Amen.

Lighting the Advent Candle Mike and Michelle Gibson

When the nights are long and the roads are hard,
we turn our eyes to the stars.
When the work is demanding and injustice unending,
we stand together, arm in arm.
When fear looms large and grief weighs heavy,
we cry out to God without holding back.
And when the dawn of tomorrow feels far away,
we gather together to light the candle of hope.
Like the stars above, may this light shine bright.
May it guide our path. May it inspire deeper hope.
Until God's promised day, may it be so.

✠Hymn 83 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set they people free;
from our fears and sins release us: let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art:
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever, now they gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone:
by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

✠Prayer of Confession Liturgist: Susie Davis

Holy God, we have been known to bite our tongues, to work through a broken heart, to don our favorite rose-colored glasses. We have been known to look for the bright side, to sweep the pain under the rug, to choose ignorance for the benefit of bliss. We have been known to keep the hurt in our heart to ourselves. Forgive us for filtering our honesty. Forgive us for ignoring the power of lament. Forgive us for not turning to you first. Remind us that you are a God who listens and you are a God who restores. With open hearts, we pray. Amen.

✠Assurance of Pardon

We are seen, forgiven, and invited—into deeper honesty and deeper relationship. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

✠Joyful Response (Hymn 113 refrain)

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

✠Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: *Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19* p. 665 in the pew Bible

Moment with the Children

Anthem *People Look East* Trad. arr. Malcolm Archer

Scripture Reading: *Isaiah 64:1-9* p. 849 in the pew Bible

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Cry Out

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

✠Hymn 470 *There is a Longing in Our Hearts*

REFRAIN: There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us. There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God.

For justice, for freedom, for mercy: hear our prayer.
In sorrow, in grief: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]

For wisdom, for courage, for comfort: hear our prayer.
In weakness, in fear: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]

For healing, for wholeness, for new life: hear our prayer.
In sickness, in death: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]

Lord save us, take pity, Light in our darkness.
We call you; we wait: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]

✠Affirmation of Faith

We believe even on the longest nights—when our steps are unclear and fear takes hold—that the sun is still rising. We believe in that sunrise like we believe in God's promised day. So instead of giving in to the great unknown, we move, in spirit, toward that light. We summon our courage. We carry each other. We dance under the stars. We listen for the angels. And we believe the good news of the gospel, which says that God loves God's creation so fiercely that God took on flesh to be with us. This is the truth that sustains our journey until the dawn.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

. . . forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors . . .

Presentation of Offerings

Whether your gift is placed in the plate, given online, or shared through your time and talents, all are invited to pause as the plate is passed to you for a prayerful moment of thanksgiving.

Offertory *Advent Message* Martin How

✠ Song of Praise (Hymn 143, verse 4)
All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ,
the newborn king!

✠Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

✠Hymn 39 *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

during the last verse, children are dismissed to the ed building for Covenant Choir.

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

REFRAIN Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. [Refrain]

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]

✠Charge and Benediction

✠Postlude *Postlude on "Old 100th"* arr. James Pethel

Go in peace, holding quiet space for those who wish to reflect and pray.

Serving in Worship Today:
Organist: Amy Shirk
Director of Music: Mike McCarthy
Flute: Tina Christie
Ushers: Bruce and Bridget Harvey
Elevator Assistant: Bill Stewart
Sanctuary Guild: Joan Darby
Videographer: Kristen Betsill

Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

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Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus —Text: Charles Wesley, 1775; Music: Witt's Psalmodia Sacra, 1715, alt.; Public Domain
Angels We Have Heard on High—Text: French carol; arr. James Chadwick 1860, alt.; Music: French Carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937;
Public Domain
There is a Longing in Our Hearts—Text and Music: Anne Quigley, 1992; © 1992 Anne Quigley (Published by OCP)
Angels, from the Realms of Glory – Text: Stanzas 1, 2, James Montgomery, 1816, 1825; stanza 4, *Salisbury Hymn Book,* 1857; Public Domain
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