



# First Congregational

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

608 West Fourth St  
Waterloo IA 50702

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# First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023



**Worship Leader**  
Abbie Chronister

**Mini Message**  
Anne Hoekstra

**Director of Music**  
Luke Overton

**Guest Preacher**  
Rev. Cathy Young

**Organist**  
Hudson Lourenço-Feld

**Office Manager**  
Michelle Wolfe

**Custodian**  
Kyle Lindaman

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.*

<b>Prelude</b>	<i>Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying</i> BWV 645 - J. S. Bach	Hudson Lourenço-Feld
<b>Welcome &amp; Announcements</b>		Abbie Chronister
<b>Call to Worship</b>		Abbie Chronister
Leader:	The day is near.	
<b>All:</b>	<b>And so we wait.</b>	
Leader:	We wait with hope,	
<b>All:</b>	<b>for the brokenhearted to be healed,</b>	
Leader:	for the downtrodden to be lifted up.	
<b>All:</b>	<b>We wait for the coming of the Christ child.</b>	
Leader:	In this meantime,	
<b>All:</b>	<b>We will sing into the silence.</b>	
	<b>We will light a candle against the darkness.</b>	
<b>Opening Prayer</b>		
	Holy God of Hope, give us ears to hear and hearts to trust the promises you offer to us in this season of Advent. As we worship together, we offer ourselves to you and we open ourselves to your abundant grace.	
	<b>Amen.</b>	
	(written by Joanna Harader and posted on Spacious Faith)	
<b>Lighting of the Advent Candle</b>		Jayne Slaughter & Family
	(We Wait in Hope" by Joel Raney) - Intro Choir	
Leader:	Advent is a time to wait.	
<b>All:</b>	<b>We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.</b>	
Leader:	During Advent we wait for light in the darkness.	
<b>All:</b>	<b>We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.</b>	
Leader:	During Advent we wait for freedom from captivity.	
<b>All:</b>	<b>We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.</b>	
Leader:	During Advent we wait for comfort in sorrow.	
<b>All:</b>	<b>We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.</b>	
Leader:	During Advent we wait for power in weakness.	
<b>All:</b>	<b>We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.</b>	
<b>Candle Lighting</b>		
<b>Congregation Response</b>	<i>We Wait in Hope</i>	(See Page 4)
<b>Prayer of Confession &amp; Reconciliation</b>		Rev. Cathy Young
<b>*Hymn</b>	<i>Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates</i>	#117 (NCH - Black)
<b>Joys &amp; Concerns</b>		Abbie Chronister

<b>Prayers of the People &amp; Lord's Prayer</b>		Rev. Cathy Young
	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.	
<b>Mini-Message</b>		Anne Hoekstra
<b>Choral Anthem</b>	<i>"Prepare!" from Canticle of Joy - Joseph M Martin</i>	Chancel Choir
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Isaiah 30:18, 23-25a; Galatians 4:4-6	Abbie Chronister
<b>Message</b>	<i>"Active Waiting"</i>	Rev. Cathy Young
<b>Invitation to Offertory</b>		Abbie Chronister
<b>Offertory</b>	<i>Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme - Philipp Nicolai</i>	Hudson Lourenço-Feld
<b>*Doxology</b>		#515 (Pilgrim - Red)
<b>*Prayer of Dedication</b>		Abbie Chronister

### THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Breaking of the Bread and Communion of the People

*Please come forward for the table is ready.*

The Communion Prayer

(The congregation will sing *"Let Us Break Bread Together"* NC #330 during communion)

<b>*Hymn</b>	<i>Come, O Come Emmanuel</i>	#116 (NCH - Black)
<b>Benediction</b>		Rev. Cathy Young
<b>Postlude</b>	Improvisation on <i>Come Thou Long Expected Jesus</i>	Hudson Lourenço-Feld

\* You are invited to Stand

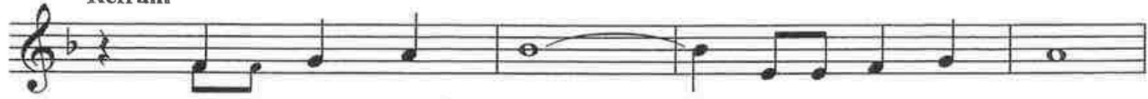
*Childcare for students up to 5th grade is provided after the Mini-Message and until Communion (youth will come back upstairs at this time to participate in Communion with their families). We welcome your child(ren) to follow youth staff to the childcare room (located at the bottom of the steps closest to the sanctuary) at the conclusion of the Mini-Message.*

# We Wait in Hope

*A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent*

Words and Music by  
JOEL RANEY

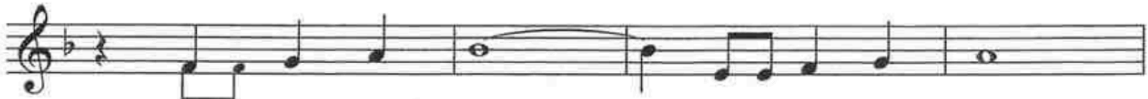
**Congregation:**  
**Refrain**



(1st Sunday)	We	wait	in	}	hope _____ for the morn - ing	Light,
(2nd Sunday)	We	watch	in			
(3rd Sunday)	We	pre - pare	in			
(4th Sunday)	We	praise	with			
(Christmas Eve)	We	pro - claim	with			



for the love of Christ to il - lu - mi - nate \_\_\_\_\_ the night. \_\_\_\_\_



We	wait	with	}	joy _____ for the Sav - ior's	birth;
We	watch	with			
We	pre - pare	with			
We	praise	with			
We	pro - claim	with			



we	wait	in	}	hope for peace on earth.
we	watch	in		
we	pre - pare	in		
we	praise	with		
we	pro - claim	with		

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