

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 1, 2024 **9:30 AM**

Today – 1st Sunday of Advent - Live Nativity - times 6, 7, & 8 pm.
- Urbana Vol. Fire Dept. parking lot - Tell your friends
December 24 – 9pm Christmas Eve Worship (7pm at Clarksburg)
December 31 – First Sunday of Christmas
January 5 – Observing Epiphany

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN: *People, Look East* **202**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Ps 25 FotW

God our salvation, there is wisdom, peace, and joy
for those who keep your Word.
By the power of your Holy Spirit,
lead us in your truth and teach us to do your will;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH Pat Huff

Reading from the Prophets: Jeremiah 33:14-16

dwh, adapted from Discipleship Ministries

*The words of the Prophet speak to our deep longings
... The earth itself cries out with longing for redemption.
The days are surely coming when the yearning of the land;
the longing of the sun, moon, and stars;
the desperate need of the people of earth for flourishing and peace
will receive their fulfillment.*

While fear, anxiety, misinformation, and suspicion
surround us on every side,
we choose to watch and wait in hope,
preparing our hearts to notice and cooperate with
God's grace already at work in our midst.

*On this first Sunday of Advent, We light this candle of hope
as a sign of our commitment to pay attention and prepare for
the days that are surely coming and are already here
—the days when God's kin-dom of love, justice, and mercy will reign.*

>>>Light a candle.<<<

HYMN: *The Candle of Hope*, stanza 1,
(uses #73 – O Worship the King - LYONS)
by Carolyn Gillette, used with permission
(as published on her website.)

The candle of hope we light in this hour
Proclaims that the Lord is coming in power.
We wait for a future, now hidden from view,
When Christ in his glory will make all things new.

SCRIPTURE LESSON **1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

HYMN: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, **211**

SERMON

INVITING *With the Psalmist, let us pray.*

CONFESSING *Ps 25 (Living Bible)*

To you, O Lord, I pray. Don't fail me, Lord, for I am trusting you.
Show me the path where I should go, O Lord;
point out the right road for me to walk. Lead me; teach me;
for you are the God who gives me salvation.
I have no hope except in you.

Overlook my youthful sins, O Lord!
Look at me instead through eyes of mercy and forgiveness,
through eyes of everlasting love and kindness.

>>>Silence.<<<

*The Lord is good and glad to teach the proper path to all who go astray;
The Lord will teach the ways that are right to those who humbly return.*
None of those who have faith in God
will ever be disgraced for trusting him.

HYMN: *Blessed Be the God of Israel* **209**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**BRINGING OUR GIFTS
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

alt from FotW

God of righteousness, you are our salvation.
You have promised also to redeem the whole creation
when Christ comes again.
In faith and hope we offer our gifts of money and self,
that we may be part of what you are doing in the world even now,
as we watch for Christ's coming in glory. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Hymnal pages 15-16

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN: *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* **203**

CHARGE *1 Thessalonians 3*

*May the Lord make your love for one another and for all people
grow more and more and become like the Love of God in Christ.
In this way he will strengthen you, and you will be perfect and holy
in the presence of our God and Father
when our Lord Jesus comes with all who belong to him.*

BLESSING

*May the grace, hope, peace and love of God
our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer
be with us all, now and forever. Amen*

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First Sunday of Advent – Dec. 1, 2024

Clarksburg United Methodist Church

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➤ **Cell Phone: 240 676 7825**

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Reflecting on and Praying with Scriptures

As suggested by the Revised Common Lectionary

First Sunday of Advent, Year C, Dec. 1, 2024

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Scriptures

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalms 25:1-10

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Luke 21:25-36

Questions for Reflection:

Even in the midst of trouble and turmoil, God allows us glimpses of the kingdom to come. What signs of promise do you see that bolster your hope in a new heaven and a new earth?

Morning Prayer:

Thank you for this new day to sing your praise
and watch for signs of your kingdom.

By your Spirit, let me abound in love for you and your
children, that in living and loving I may point to your
coming reign.

In the name of Jesus I pray. Amen.

Evening Prayer:

Thank you for the signs of your coming reign,
and for the power of your saving love.

Bless all those whom I met today, and
strengthen their hope in your power and grace.

Now as I close my eyes,

I relinquish all anxieties and fears,
trusting in your providence and mercy. Amen.

**What NEW thing would you like to see
the church try to do in the coming months?**

