



HOPE

...hope of all the earth thou art.

St Andrew Worship November 28, 2021

Dial- 669 900 9128
Meeting ID 831 688 4211
Password 9850
Use *6 to unmute your phone

Meeting Times
Sunday at 10:30 Worship
www.aptospresbyterianchurch.org

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Advent Candle - The Millar Family

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promises I have made.

To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls: In you, O God, we trust.

The one who is coming will show us the path of steadfast love and faithfulness.

Teach us your ways, O God of our salvation. We light this candle in the sure hope that God's promises endure.

Advent Song

Light the Advent Candle, one:
Now the waiting has begun;
We have started on our way,
Time to think of Christmas day.

Refrain

Candle, candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold night; candle, candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.

Hymn 357 *The Days Are Surely Coming*

The days are surely coming, says God to all the earth, when you will see my promise: salvation come to birth. My righteousness and justice will spread throughout the land and you will be delivered by my almighty hand.

The days are surely coming, says Christ, the promised one, when you will read my warning in moon and stars and sun. Though earth and heaven tremble, stand up and do not fear, for I am your redeemer, and I am drawing near.

The days are surely coming when we will know at last the fullness of God's presence, God's promise, come to pass. Then righteousness and justice will spread throughout the land and we will be delivered by God's almighty hand

Prayer of Confession

*It is never easy for us to confess our sins, Waiting God.
There are the hurts we have caused to our families and friends,
which we would like to forget.
There are those we believe are impossible to love,
and so we don't try.
There are people who live on the edge of our society,
and we ignore their cries for help.
Forgive us, God who comes near to us.
When we have lost our way, show us yours.
Lead us in humility down the streets of your kingdom.
Teach us your truth,
so we might be able to keep your Word,
revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.
Time for silent reflection.*

Assurance of Grace

God does not remember our sins,
but does remember the promises which have been made to us.
God does not shame us, but lifts us to new life.
*Lead us in your hope, O God, and teach us your love.
You are the God of our days, we wait for you to come to us. Amen.*

Anthem /Special Music

Prayers of the People *Lord Listen to Your Children Praying*

Hymn 84 *Creator of the Stars of Night* (alt. tune Puer Nobis Nasctus)

Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light, O Christ, redeemer of us all, we pray you, hear us when we call.

When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in splendor bright, not as a monarch, but the child of Mary, blameless mother mild.

At your great name, O Jesus, now all knees must bend, all hearts must bow: all things on earth with one accord, like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.

To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One, praise, honor, might, and glory be from age to age eternally. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

The heavens are telling of your glory, O God.

You meet us in our pilgrimages of faith with good news or great joy.

Let your living Word remind us afresh to let your light shine. Empower us as we listen and respond to be guiding stars of hope and kindness in your world. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

First Lesson: Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Second Lesson: Luke 21:25-36

²⁵ "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Sermon

"Righteous Branch"

Rev. Anne McAnelly

Affirmation — written by Lisa Frenz

*We believe in one God, who is Creator,
maker of all we see and all we don't see.*

Who is Ruler of the universe: Source of all creation!

*We believe in one God, who is Jesus Christ,
God from God, Light from Light, true God and true human.
He is one with the Creator;
the Word made flesh, our Messiah: Savior of all creation!*

*We believe in one God, who is Holy Spirit,
Breath of God moving among us;
Who is one with the Creator; one with the Christ;
our Comforter and our Guide: Mentor of all creation!*

Offering

Doxology

Offering Prayer

Holy One, this Advent season we wait in hope.

And we give in hope.

Hope for your coming reign;

Hope because of your presence with us even now.

Receive these generous offerings,

And use them for your work of healing and hope in our world.

Amen.

Hymn 94 Now the Heavens Start to Whisper

Now the heavens start to whisper, as the veil is growing thin. Earth from slumber wakes to listen to the stirring, faint within: Seed of promise, deeply planted, child to spring from Jesse's stem! Like the soil beneath the frostline, hearts grow soft to welcome him.

Heavy clouds that block the moonlight now begin to drift away. Diamond brilliance through the darkness shines the hope of coming day. Christ, the morning star of splendor, gleams within a world grown dim. Heaven's ember fans to fullness; hearts grow warm to welcome him.

Christ, eternal Sun of justice, Christ, the rose of wisdom's seed, come to bless with fire and fragrance hours of yearning, hurt, and need. In the lonely, in the stranger, in the outcast, hid from view: child who comes to grace the manger, teach our hearts to welcome you.

Benediction