

MORNING WORSHIP

November 30, 2025

Half past Ten O' Clock

First Sunday of Advent

*When the organ begins, please prepare for worship through silent prayer and meditation.
Following the service, greet one another with joy and affection!*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

TIME OF MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

+WELCOME AND NOTICES

PRELUDE

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

arr. John Peterson

CHORAL INTROIT

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: On Sundays and Mondays,

People: on good days and bad days,

Leader: early in the morning and very late at night,

People: here in this room, and out in the world, God, we long for You to break in.

Leader: Meet us in this space.

People: Surprise us with Your presence.

Leader: Fill this room with Your good news.

People: With hope, we sing, we worship, we pray. Amen!

Leader: Come, you are invited.

People: Thanks be to God!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

PRAYER (Unison)

God of hope, the world swirls with tumult and we are overcome by fear. Yet You remain steadfast, and Your love is ever-present. When we are afraid, help us remember the hope of Your promises and the grace we find in Your love. As we wait for the inbreaking of the Christ child, as we long for Emmanuel, God with us, let us be lights of hope in a world of fear. Amen.

+*HYMN 88

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

VENI EMMANUEL

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Ever-present God, we long to feel You close. We long to feel Your presence in our lives.

We long for You to break through the chaos and suffering of this world. However, if we're honest, we rarely stand still long enough to feel You in our midst. Forgive our rushing and distractions.

Forgive our wandering hearts, and center us in this space. Remind us that even in the time of Herod, even on the longest nights, You are always there. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Family of faith, even when we doubt God's presence, even when we fail to notice God's fingerprints in this world, God is always moving closer to us. Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

A MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Immediately following the Message for Young Disciples, the congregation will sing the first verse of “Jesus Loves Me” as children age five through second grade are invited to Children’s Worship.

**Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong. They are weak, but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 1:5-13, pew Bible pg. 931

SERMON

“What Do You Long For?”

Margo Fraga

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)

**We have seen the valley. We have seen a sky without stars. We have seen the longest night,
and still we believe. We believe in a with-us God. We believe in the hope of tomorrow.**

**We believe that good news is louder than fear. We believe this good news is for all people.
So even when our knees shake, even when our voice trembles, even when fear is all around us,
we will hold onto that good news.**

**We will reach for each other. We will look for God in our midst. We will sing songs of joy.
We will proclaim: Unto us, love is born. We have seen the longest night, and we have seen
unimaginable love. So still, we believe. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE LOAF AND CUP

Please hold the elements until all are served so that we may commune in unison. All bread is gluten free.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

“People, Look East”

BESANÇON

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL TO OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

Text to Give

704-734-9818

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Angelus ad virginem”
Translation: Gabriel to Mary Came

arr. David Willcocks

*DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

**Gracious God, accept these gifts in grateful response for Your generosity. This Advent season
we wait in hope, and we give in hope. A hope deeper than our anxiety and fear. A hope growing
from our trust in Your loving power. Receive these generous offerings, and use them to bring
Your hope to our world. Amen.**

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 86 (verses 1, 3, and 5)	“The People Who Walked In Darkness”	ISAIAH 9
*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION		
*CHORAL RESPONSE	“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”	GENEVAN 42
*POSTLUDE	<i>Prepare the Royal Highway</i>	arr. Michael Burkhardt

*Those who are able please stand. +Ushers may seat late worshipers.

Parts of the liturgy adapted from A Sanctified Art LLC/sanctifiedart.org

SELWYN AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WARMLY WELCOMES ALL WHO VISIT

Selwyn Avenue is glad you are with us this morning. We welcome all visitors, celebrating God's creativity in human diversity. We'd like to stay in touch with you! Please take a moment to fill out a pew card and place it in the offering plate. Please ask an usher if you need help locating the nursery, restrooms, changing tables, or large print hymnals.

Membership is by one of three paths: 1) profession of faith in Jesus Christ (for those who have never been part of a Christian church); 2) re-affirmation of faith (for those who formerly were part of a congregation but have not been involved in recent times - for example, you were baptized and/or confirmed but moved and never engaged with a new congregation); or 3) transfer of membership from another congregation (your membership is with another church). Prospective members are invited to participate in Orientation Classes, which are scheduled several times a year, and are a wonderful way to meet others and learn about our church and all the opportunities here. We stand ready to be in communication with you about your particular situation.

WORSHIP BAGS FOR 4 YRS. - 5TH GRADE Age-appropriate activities for readers and non-readers to encourage their participation in following along in worship are available in the narthex. Please return the bag to the basket after worship.

SAPC STAFF INFORMATION		
Position	Name	E-mail address
Pastor	Lori Archer Raible	lorir@selwynpres.org
Associate Pastor for CEF/Congregational Life	Margo Fraga	margor@selwynpres.org
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Director of Children and Families	Karley Wilke-Nadler	karleywn@gmail.com
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Director of Child Development Center	Beth Sharpe	bsharpe@selwynprescdc.com
Resident Pastor at QHPC	Allyson Anderson	allyson.qhpc@gmail.com
SAPC SESSION		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Rich Bonnell, Lori Burbank, Tate Hackman, Marybet Hudson, Todd Muldrew, Walker Owens, Adam Piacentino, Denise Pineno, Evan Sauda, Elizabeth Stearns, Caroline Thompson, Tina Weinberg; Youth Elder-Sarah Pineno	Mike Bellamy, Michelle Bentley, Lee Bobbitt, Jeremy Caskey, Mike DeAmicis, Zach Houston, Catherine Miller, Sally Moore, Becky Muth, Cathy Sheely, Janet Stephens, Karey Tom	Mike Bolewitz, Katie Cumbus, Lindsay Haynie, Sebastian Marth, Roger Mills, Martha Rand, Erin Salzlein, Rebecca Thompson, Ted Zimmer