

# Welcome To Worship

November 29, 2015 9:00 AM

**First Sunday In Advent - REMEMBER**



*open hearts, open minds, open doors*

**Granville United Methodist Church**

Rev. G. Edward 'Ted' Corcelius, Pastor

AS WE GATHER

***Respect those around you:*** Attend to your phones: turn them off and/or to vibrate.

***During Worship:*** (\*) Please stand if you are able

**Bold Print**—The People in Worship respond

LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY

PRELUDE

\* GREETING

L: The days are shorter and darkness comes early to our lives.

**P: Lord, hear our prayers through the darkness.**

L: Come, seek the Lord. Place your hope in God's mercy and love.

**P: Lord, we seek your presence among us.**

L: Look closely! God is making us ready.

**P: Brighten our Spirits this day,  
and help us to receive your Good News.**

L: We begin our Advent journey as we sing together:

\* HYMN

*Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

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TIME IN PRAYER TOGETHER

Leader: We can hardly believe it, Lord. The Advent season is upon us. We usually translate that into the buying season in preparation for THE BIG DAY. But when we place our hope in the tinsel, wrappings, tape and boxes, we forget the most glorious gift of all, the gift of God's absolute love. Open our eyes, our hearts, our spirits today to behold God's gracious love for us in the fulfillment of all God's promises. We to pray together:

**ALL: It is so easy for us, Lord, to let the anger, frustration, and fear overshadow our lives. We can't seem to escape it. We try to find some way to cover it up, but it remains. And in our anxiety, we act out our fear in ways which are not helpful and, far too often, go against the ways you have taught us to live. We feel the pressure to give, and resentment in giving. We feel the push to be present at every upcoming event, and want to run and hide. Help us, Lord. Heal our wounded spirits. Free us again to look to you for Hope. Let us see the many ways in which you are present to us..... guiding, healing, loving, encouraging us. Forgive us for our fears and our stubbornness. Bring us once again to your light, for we ask this in Jesus' Name.**

## SILENT PRAYER WITH WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: "The days are coming", says the prophet Isaiah, "when all God's promises will be fulfilled." These promises of hope, peace, joy, and love are for you. Receive the hope that God offers to you today. **P: Amen.**

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

**Scripture -- Jeremiah 33:14-16**

### **Reflection**

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

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

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

**P: Teach us your ways, O God of our salvation. We light this candle in the sure hope that God's promises endure. We will live in the light of hope as we await the coming of the Lord.**

HYMN *God Almighty, We Are Waiting – verse 1*

From Worship and Song – Words on Screen

*[Here light the first purple candle as the congregation sings.]*

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS

<i>Psalm 25</i>		<b>756</b>
<i>1 Thessalonians 3:9-13</i>	<b>Pew Bible NT</b>	<b>192</b>
<i>Luke 21:25-36</i>	<b>Pew Bible NT</b>	<b>80-81</b>

## FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

\* HYMN *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* **211**

## INVITATION TO SHARE IN DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY

\* RESPONSE      *Jesus, the Light Of The World (chorus)*  
Words on the Screen

\* HYMN                      *There Is Something About That Name*      171

MESSAGE                      *Remember – Jesus Reconciles*  
*Coming Of The Lord*

A TIME IN PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**ALL: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

\* HYMN                      *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*      213

\* BENEDICTION

\* POSTLUDE

*Depart to the Mission Field as you Serve the Lord*  
*Fellowship follows this worship time in the Social Hall*  
*Educational class follow the fellowship time*  
*Share in this time - grow in your faith*