CHILMARK COMMUNITY CHURCH

First Sunday of Advent December 1, 2024

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Quiet

Introit (seated) Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs. 1) #211

*Call to Worship (*please stand as you are able)

- One: In Advent we watch, wait, and prepare to welcome the Christ Child into the world.
- All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!
- One: In Advent we prepare for a life of discipleship, and watch faithfully for signs of God's light breaking through.
- All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!
- One: As we wait, O Holy One, we watch for signs of your action in the world, actions of compassion and grace.
- All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!
- One: Holy God, we recognize that we do not know the day or the hour, but we know that the day is near.
- All: Come, Lord Jesus, come! Be born anew in our world and in our lives.

*Hymn Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming #216

Song: Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you; you are my own. In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever. Go, my children, with my blessing—you are my own.

Unison Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer (seated) In this season as the days grow shorter and the shadows lengthen, we gather in expectation for the Light of the World to dawn. Help us, God, to lay aside all that burdens us as we enter this sacred season. During this hour of worship, send your Spirit to empower us to live in the light with hope. We pray as Jesus taught us: 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, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE Jeremiah 33:14-16

Luke 21:25-36

Scriptures

Sermon

Interlude (seated) Pastoral and Silent Prayer Prayer Response Rev. Dr. Wright

THANKSGIVING

The Offering *Doxology *Unison Offering Praver

#95

God of hopeful waiting, we give thanks for all of the ways in which you reveal yourself to us. Help us to clear away the many distractions of this season and offer our whole lives as gifts to you. May these offerings nurture all of the ways in which your promise is breaking into the world in acts of compassion and justice. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Hymn	Come, O Long-Expected Jesus	#196
Benediction		
Postlude		
	Please join us for Fellowship and Coffee	
	in the parish hall after the service	
	Rev. Dr. Charlotte Wright, Pastor	
	Sean McMahon, Music Minister	

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE DECEMBER 1, 2024

(The congregation may remain seated)

Readers:

Reader: Our soul waits for the Lord; God is our help and shield. Our heart is glad in the Faithful One because we trust God's holy name. Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you. (Psalm 33:20-22)

1st voice: Something's coming!

2nd voice: It's more than presents!

3rd voice: It's more than lights!

4th voice: We open The Book and read the promise.

All: God will be with us.

One voice: Our hearts are glad; we trust God's holy name.

All: God's never ending love surrounds us.

One voice: Today we light the candle of Hope. (Light the first purple candle)

All: Our hope is in the Lord

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THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

One: God spoke in the beginning; out of darkness came night and day, out of emptiness came creation, out of loneliness came humankind. And God said, "This is very good."

All: God spoke when the world was troubled; giving voice to prophets from the earliest days, moving through Mary as she gave birth to her child, crying as a vulnerable baby lying in a manger. Still God said, "This is very good."

One: God speaks today; breathing energy into our weary lives, challenging our celebrations and sharing our pain, dancing with songs of justice and peace. We shout, "This is very good."

Let us pray together:

We gather at your table, O God, and we open wide our hearts awaiting the one who deals with our short comings. May Emmanuel descend to us, we pray, casting out our resistance and entering in; may Christ be born in us each day; we pray through Christ's name. Amen.

We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke the bread and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body which is broken for you – do this in remembrance of me." Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ. (serve)

In the same way, Jesus took the cup, after supper saying: This cup is the new covenant poured out for you. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. Through this cup of blessing we participate in the new life Christ give. The gifts of God for the people of God, all is ready. (serve)

Closing prayer: All praise is yours, O God. You bring us to this table as sisters and brothers. Lead us now, through each of our moments, to that glorious day when all your children will gather as family. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Your peace and hope made flesh. Amen!

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