



The People of God in Worship

December 3, 2017

Eleven O'Clock in the Morning

First Sunday of Advent

THE GREETING

The Rev. Dr. Michael K. Cheuk

To our Guests, Members, and Friends: In the pew rack you will find a small brochure to give us the opportunity to get to know you and serve you better. Fill in where appropriate, and place it in the collection plate. Welcome and thank you!

THE CHIMES

Three chimes are sounded, awakening us to the presence of God, alerting us to the voice of Christ, centering us in the embrace of the Spirit.

THE PRELUDE

Please consider the organ prelude as an invitation to quietly, reverently prepare yourself for worship.

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

The Hon. Ed Burnette

Leader: The days are surely coming, says the Lord,
when I will fulfill my promise to my people.

People: **Justice and righteousness will fill the land,
and all will live in peace and safety.**

(taken from Jeremiah 31:14-16)

***HYMN OF HOPE - HYMN No. 244**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

***INVOCATION AND THE GLORIA PATRI**

The Hon. Ed Burnette

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

THE CANDLE OF HOPE

Bill and Pat Fleming

Leader: We light this candle to proclaim the coming of God's light into our world.
This solitary flame represents the dawning of hope in our lives and in our world.

People: **Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!**

***THE ADVENT RESPONSE (Stanza 1)**

On This Day, Earth Shall Ring

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 64:1-9

The Hon. Ed Burnette

Leader: A Word for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God!**THE SECOND READING**

Mark 13:24-37

The Hon. Ed Burnette

Leader: A Word for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God!**THE MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

The Rev. Dr. Michael K. Cheuk

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY - HYMN No. 86Jesus, Name Above All Names***THE GIFTS**

*Offertory Moment and Prayer

The Hon. Ed Burnette

Offertory - Anthem

People, Look East

arr. Vincent M. Ryan

*Doxology - No. 815

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow***THE THIRD READING**

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

The Rev. Dr. Michael K. Cheuk

Leader: A Word for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God!**THE MESSAGE***A Song of Lament*

The Rev. Dr. Michael K. Cheuk

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

The Community

All are invited to share the bread and the cup, waiting for all to be served.

The Bread: This is my body which is broken for you.

Do this to remember me.

The Cup: This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

Do this as often as you drink it to remember me.

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

If you desire membership in this congregation, you are invited to present yourself at this time. If you prefer not to present yourself, you may speak to the minister after the service to effect membership. As an open membership church, we honor your previous baptism in any other Christian community. If you have not made a profession of faith, we invite you to do so and receive Christian baptism. Church members are invited to use this time to renew their covenantal relationship with God and their commitment to Christian service.

*HYMN No. 426

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

*BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Michael K. Cheuk

*THE CHORAL RESPONSE

Advent Alleluia

arr. Keith Christopher

*THE POSTLUDE

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- * The ushers will seat those waiting.
 - * Those who are able will please stand.
 - * Hearing aids are available from the ushers.

Last week's sermon outline and copies of the prayer list are in the narthex.

Offertory Emphasis

The first Advent candle we light today is the candle of hope. Our ministry includes support of "Together for Hope" -- a long-term commitment by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship working with people in twenty of the nation's poorest counties. Several of these are rural counties along the Texas/Mexico border, where the largely Hispanic population now faces increased uncertainty and anxiety. Your mission gifts work to break the cycle of economic disparity through establishing and nurturing helpful relationships.

Please join me in prayer.

We uphold Jorge Zapata and others who are coordinating efforts by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship in Texas. We are committed to being "Together for Hope" -- a ministry that is about building relationships of trust and partnership so that the hopes of despairing people may be realized. Amen.