

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
1201 JEFFERSON ST., MUSKEGON, MI 49441
WEBSITE: www.fccmuskegon.org**

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 29, 2020

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul, O my God, in you I trust.

No one who waits for you is ever put to shame.

Psalm 25: 1-2

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE COMMUNITY

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Reader 1 - My brothers and sisters, today we begin the season of Advent. It is the season when we prepare for the coming of Christ into the world.

Reader 2 - We fix our eyes not just on Jesus, who came to Bethlehem so long ago,

Reader 1 (or 3) - or even the Christ who will come again in glory,

Reader 2 - but also on Immanuel, God with us, whose presence in our hearts gives us hope, and fills us with love and joy and peace.

Reader 1 - Let us pray.

ALL - **God grant that the candles of this wreath may remind us that your Anointed One comes into the world as a light shining in the darkness, a light that the darkness cannot comprehend or overcome. Amen.**

LIGHTING THE FIRST CANDLE OF ADVENT

Reader - We light candles to proclaim the coming of the light of God into the world.

All - **With the coming of this light there is hope.**

Reader - The light of Christ calls us to work for good in the world.

All - **The light of Christ calls us to believe that good is stronger than evil,**

Reader - We look forward to the day when light prevails,

All - **And so we light this candle of hope.**

HYMN *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

GATHERING PRAYER

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Gracious God, the warmth of your love is our true heart's desire, and in the light of your Word we find Wisdom and Truth. So increase our longing for your coming among us, and with it our hope, because we know we can depend on you. This we ask through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING I Corinthians 1:3-9

MESSAGE OUR BLESSED HOPE

HYMN OF RESPONSE *O How Shall I Receive You*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(after each petition) Leader: Lord in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

...ending with the Lord's Prayer:

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us
not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the
glory, forever. Amen.**

(Many Congregationalists in the early days felt that using the Lord's Prayer as a fixed part of worship was far too "liturgical." The traditional form in this Congregation uses "debts" and "debtors," but you are free to join in with whatever version you know.)

OFFERTORY

Invitation

Offertory Music

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;**

**Praise Father (Creator), Son (Christ), and Holy Ghost.
Prayer of Dedication**

BLESSING AND SENDING

HYMN Isaiah, the Prophet Has Written of Old

POSTLUDE

Announcements

Mission For Area People will be the recipient of our Mission's Virtual Gifting Tree this year. MAP will be having a TEEN TOWN CHRISTMAS GIVE AWAY, focusing on the often forgotten teens ages 15-18. This year you will be able to give a monetary gift donation on our website until December 11, 2020, or you may give directly on Mission For Area People's website. On their giving donation they will have a note area. Please note you are a member of FCC. That helps them track who is from where. Many thanks for helping out this year. Please be reminded ***we will not be collecting any presents for them. MAP will use your gift of money and do the shopping for you!***

Please Note: Yes, we wish to protect your health, so we have a thermometer inside the door of the kitchen entrance and main parking lot entrance. Write your name and phone number and that you had your temperature taken. Simply point the underside of your wrist toward the screen of the thermometer. It will do the rest. There is also a sanitizer at the base of the thermometer. Staff is doing the same each and every time we enter our church building. Kindly log out when you are ready to leave. As "normal", masks are still required. Many thanks!

FCC Office Cell Phone Number: 231-260-8559. Monday through Thursday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. You may also text to the cell phone number.

Weekly Calendar:

Sun Nov 29	10:00 am	Virtual Youth Worship
	10:30 am	Virtual Worship Service
Tue Dec 01	11:00 am	Virtual Staff Meeting
	2:00 pm	FCC Food Pantry
Wed Dec 02	9:00 am	Building Volunteers
	10:00 am	Virtual Youth Worship Activity
Thu Dec 03	6:30 pm	Worship & Music Virtual Meeting
Sun Dec 04	10:00 am	Virtual Youth Worship
	10:30 am	Virtual Worship Service

Weekly Scripture

SUN Nov 29 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
I Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

MON Nov 30 Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm 122
Matthew 8:5-11

TUE Dec 01 Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm 72:1, 7-8, 12-13, 17
Luke 10:21-24

WED Dec 02 Isaiah 25:6-10a

Psalm 23
Matthew 15:29-37

THU Dec 03 Isaiah 26:1-6

Psalm 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a
Matthew 7:21, 24-27

FRI Dec 04 Isaiah 29:17-24

Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14
Matthew 9:27-31

SAT Dec 05 Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26

Psalm 147:1-6
Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5-8

SUN Dec 06 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
2 Peter 3:8-15
Mark 1:1-8