



A Service of Comfort and Hope
Perinton Presbyterian Church
December 21, 2021
7pm

Welcome to this time of worship. As we gather in prayer, please have a candle and an empty chair in your worship space at home.

Prelude

Ivanka Driankova

Call to Worship

Pastor Laura Fry

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow, a light has shined. For the yoke that was weighing upon them, and the burden upon their shoulders, you have broken in pieces, O God, our Redeemer.

Let us pray:

People: God of mercy, hear our prayer in this Advent season for ourselves and for our families who live with painful thoughts and memories. We ask for strength for today, courage for tomorrow, and peace for the past. We ask these things in the name of Christ, who shares our life in joy and sorrow, death and new birth, despair and promise. Amen.

Isaiah 40:1, 25-31

Pastor Harry Heintz

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121

Julie Smith

Leader: I will lift up my eyes to the hills, from where is my help to come?

People: My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth

Leader: He will not let your foot be moved and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

People: Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

Leader: The Lord himself watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

People: So that the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night

Leader: The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; it is he who shall keep you safe.

People: The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth for ever more.

Leader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

People: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Gospel of Matthew 11:28-30

Mark Stevens

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Hymn: "O come, O come, Emmanuel"

Glory to God #88, verses 1 & 4

A LITURGY OF REMEMBRANCE

First Candle

Pastor Laura Fry

"Tidings of Comfort and Hope"

1. God rest you, weary travelers,
Let nothing you dismay.
Remember Christ our Savior
Was born on Christmas Day,

To save us all from Satan's pow'r
When we were gone astray.
Oh, tidings of comfort and hope,
Comfort and hope,
Oh, tidings of comfort and hope.

Second Candle:

Pastor Harry Heintz

“Tidings of Comfort and Hope”

2. The losses we experience
Weigh heavy on the soul.
But Jesus dwells among us
To heal and make us whole.
He comes to mend the broken heart,
The trembling hand to hold.
Oh, tidings of comfort and hope,
Comfort and hope,
Oh, tidings of comfort and hope.

Third Candle:

Julie Smith

“Tidings of Comfort and Hope”

3. God rest you Jesus worshipers,
The babe now reigns on high.
He promised to return again,
The hour now draws nigh.
With comfort and with hope from God,
We sing his lullaby.
Oh, tidings of comfort and hope,
Comfort and hope,
Oh, tidings of comfort and hope.

Fourth Candle:

Mark Stevens

“Tidings of Comfort and Hope”

4. God rest you, Jesus followers,

When life is midnight blue.
The darkness yields to bright daybreak,
Graced with the morning dew.
And Jesus will not rest until
He makes the broken new.
Oh, tidings of comfort and hope,
Comfort and hope,
Oh, tidings of comfort and hope.

Prayers of the People

Pastor Laura Fry

Leader: Lord in your mercy

People: *Hear our prayer.*

The Lord's Prayer

Lighting of Individual Candles

Pastor Harry Heintz

Closing

Pastor Laura Fry

Hymn: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

O come, Desire of nations, bind
in one the hearts of all mankind;
bid thou our sad divisions cease,
and be thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

Benediction

Julie Smith

Leader: May the hope of the Christ Child sustain us through this darkness.

People: *That together we may shine again. Amen.*

Postlude

Ivanka Driankova