



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

HOPE

Because our God is faithful,
WE JOURNEY IN HOPE.

Celebration of Worship

December 1, 2024



Advent 1: Journeying in Hope

Centering chimes

Prelude

*Call to worship

Leader: Responding to the call of the living God,

People: our rescuer and Savior,

Leader: we welcome the Holy Spirit's presence,

People: among and within us.

Leader: In the name of Jesus, our risen Lord,

ALL: we offer ourselves in worship.

*Gathering Hymn #209 "We Dream of a Turning"

Welcome & prayer

Lighting Advent candles

Leader: Together we journey as we wait.

People: How long must we wait?

Leader: No one knows when the time will come.

Journey in hope, strengthened by God's faithfulness.

Candle lighting hymn #218 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Children's story and offering for SIM Bangladesh Arsenic Prevention Program

Congregation sings as children come forward (Voices Together #512)

Scripture Luke 3:1-6

Embodied scripture Romans 5:1-5

Sermon

***Response Hymn #225** "We Come"

Offering prayer

Offertory (*offerings can be placed in the offering plates as the greeters come by*)

Congregational sharing and prayer (use a mic or *text/email prayers to Pastor Deb*)

Advent music O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *arr. By McDonald & Sharp Nelson*

Introduction of visitors

Work of the church

***Sending Hymn #259** "To Us a Child of Hope is Born"

***Benediction**

**Stand in body or in spirit. Children are invited to wave the worship ribbons during the hymns.*

We welcome, without exclusion, all who seek God's love and grace...

You are welcome here, inclusive of gender, race, country of origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, sexual identity, socioeconomic status, family status, past imprisonment, education, citizenship status and physical or mental abilities. We encourage you to share in the rituals, fellowship and ministry of this congregation.

Hearing devices (T-coil and over-ear) and large print hymnals are available from the greeters.

Childcare (birth – preschool) is provided in the nursery downstairs.