

**Lyonsville Congregational United Church of Christ**

November 28, 2021 at 10:00am

First Sunday of Advent

[zoom.us/j/7082461255](https://zoom.us/j/7082461255) or call 312-626-6799.

The meeting ID is 708 246 1255. The password is 60525.

If dialing in, press # when asked for an ID.

*To manage noise, all participants are muted except for congregational participation.*

Mike Molloy, Worship Artist

Diane Marelli, Worship Artist

Nayna Byers, Liturgist

We welcome Rev. Gary Faleide to the pulpit.

**Gathering Music/Prelude**

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

arr. Mark Hayes - © 2010 Lorenz Publishing Co.

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**Greeting**

*One:* This is the day the Lord has made!

*All:* **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

**Call to Worship**

*One:* The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;

**All: on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.**

*One:* The light that is the Word of God, God incarnate.

**All: Let us worship as we wait for the newborn King!**

**Song**

“When God is a Child” (Stanza 1)

Music © 1987 & Words © 1989 Hope Publishing Co.

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Hope is a star that shines in the night,  
leading us on till the morning is bright.

When God is a child there's joy in our song.

The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,  
and none shall be afraid.

**Candle Lighting Litany:** The Hope Candle

*Liturgy Adapted from the Rev. Wendy Sherer, ©2020 Clergy Stuff*

*One:* We yearn and we hope. We wait for God's promises to be fully realized.

*All:* **So, too, did people for centuries yearn and hope for the Messiah to come.**

*One:* (*Lighting the Hope Candle*) We light this candle as a sign of hope. We are watching and waiting for God's sign of hope yet to come.

*All:* **We see this light for what it is - a sign of hope in a suffering world yearning for the promise.**

*One:* In our watching and waiting, we give thanks for the gift of hope. Amen.

**Opening Song**

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

(Chalice Hymnal 718, Public Domain)

Come, ye thankful people, come,  
raise the song of harvest home;  
all is safely gathered in,  
ere the winter storms begin;  
God, our Maker, does provide  
for our wants to be supplied;  
Come to God's own temple, come,  
raise the song of harvest home.

All the blessings of the field,  
all the stores the gardens yield,  
all the fruits in full supply,  
ripened 'neath the summer sky,  
All that spring with bounteous hand  
scatters o'er the smiling land,  
all that liberal autumn pours  
from its rich o'erflowing stores.

These to thee, my God, we owe,  
source whence all our blessings flow;  
and for these my soul shall raise  
grateful vows and solemn praise.  
Come, ye thankful people, come,  
raise the song of harvest home;  
come to God's own temple, come,  
raise the song of harvest home.

## **Passing the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Please rise and greet your neighbor in peace.

*(Pause for Greetings)*

One: Let us take a moment of silence to invite  
God's peace to wash over us.

## **Word for Children**

**"Preparing for a Birthday Party"**

Rev. Gary Faleide

## **Scripture Reading**

Luke 21: 25-36

Karen Oberg, Reader

## **The Word in Music**

**"My Lord What a Morning"**

Spiritual, arranged by H. T. Burleigh

(Public Domain)

## **Sermon**

**"We Begin With the End"**

Rev. Gary Faleide

## **Reflection Song**

**"All People That On Earth Do Dwell"**

(Chalice Hymnal 18) Public Domain

All people that on earth do dwell,  
sing out your faith with cheerful voice;  
delight in God whose praise you tell,  
whose presence calls you to rejoice.

Know that there is one God, indeed,  
who fashions us without our aid,  
who claims us, gives us all we need,  
whose tender care will never fade.

Enter the sacred gates with praise,  
with joy approach the temple walls.  
Extol and bless our God always,  
as people whom the Spirit calls.

Proclaim again that God is good,  
whose mercy is forever sure,  
whose truth at all times firmly stood,  
and shall from age to age endure.

## **Prayers of the People**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

### **Offering our Gifts and Prayers**

#### **Invitation**

**Online Giving:** [lyonsvillechurch.org/donate](https://lyonsvillechurch.org/donate) OR via the "Realm Connect" app  
**Mail Giving:** Mail contributions to: 6871 Joliet Road, Indian Head Park IL 60525.

#### **Music at the Offertory**

"Eternal Father, Strong To Save"

arr. Lloyd Larson - © 2017 Lorenz Publishing Co..

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#### **Doxology**

#### **Prayer of Thanks**

## **Announcements**

### **Closing Song**

"Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates"  
(Chalice Hymnal 129)(Public Domain)

Lift up your heads, O mighty gates;  
behold the glorious Ruler waits!  
The Sovereign One is drawing near;  
the Savior of the world is here.

Fling wide the portals of your heart;  
make it a temple, set apart  
from earthly use for heaven's employ,  
adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come! We open wide  
our hearts to you; here, Christ abide!  
Let us your inner presence feel,  
your grace and love in us reveal.

So, come, our Sovereign; enter in!  
Let new and nobler life begin;  
your Holy Spirit guide us on,  
until the glorious crown be won.

### **Spoken Blessing**

Rev. Gary Faleide

*One:* Lord God,

*All:* **your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior,**

*One:* who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness  
of ignorance and sin.

*All:* **Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles  
of this wreath;**

*One:* may their light reflect the splendor of Christ, who is Lord,  
forever and ever.

*All:* **Amen.**

### **Sung Blessing**

"Go In Peace"

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Sung Blessing: © 1998 Abingdon Press

**Go in peace and the peace of God be with you this day.  
Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.  
Celebrate and share the joy! Celebrate new life!  
Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.**

### **Postlude**

"The Church's One Foundation"

arr. Lloyd Larsen - © 2017 Lorenz Publishing Co.

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## **IN-PERSON WORSHIP COVID GUIDELINES**

We understand that combining three main precautions reliably leads to safe indoor gatherings: mask wearing, distancing, and ventilation. Our policies are consistent with guidance and requirements from local, state, and federal public health authorities and our wider United Church of Christ. As conditions change, we will review and adjust these policies as well:

- **Everyone over the age of 2 will need to wear a mask that covers their mouth and nose, regardless of vaccination status. Masks are also required in common areas of the church where there are other people.**
- **Every other pew will be available for seating. Unavailable pews will be marked off. Maintain at least 6 feet in distance from those outside your household.**
- **Windows will be open to provide ventilation. (even in cooler weather)**
- **Fellowship Hour will be in the lounge. Please distance yourselves from each other, Masks must be worn except when eating.**
- **Worship leaders may choose to lead without a mask while on the chancel if they are fully vaccinated.**

For the safety of all of us, we request good-natured adherence to these policies. Thank you.