



## SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

December 3, 2023

1st Sunday of Advent  
*Revised Common Lectionary*  
*Year B Begins*

9:30 a.m.

Liturgist: Faye Gardner

*Welcome!*

*We're glad you are here to worship with us,  
whether in-person or virtually on Zoom or YouTube.*

## Gathering the People of God

### WELCOME

Pastor Eric O. Ledermann

*Please register your attendance with your mobile device by scanning the QR code to the right or by going to [www.upctempe.org/fellowship](http://www.upctempe.org/fellowship), and completing the form.*



The light of Christ be with you!

⌘ **And also with you!**

### PRAYER REQUESTS

(480) 256-8216

*Prayers may be texted to the above number,  
or call and leave a message.*

### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

### CENTERING TIME & LIGHTING OF CANDLES

*"Advent Song"*

BY MARY LU WALKER

Ted Gibson,

*Pianist*

*We use this time to center our spirits, bring our attention to God within our breath, and remember that we are connected to all things through the Body of Christ.*

*Candles remind us of the light of God's love that exists within each human being and every created thing. The candles on the communion table represent the light of community. The single candle near the pulpit is the paschal candle, the light of Christ that shines on and in the world, and the darkness cannot overcome it.*

## **ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING<sup>2</sup>**

We light the first candle of the new year  
for all God's people,  
struggling to be bearers of hope  
in a troubled world.

**‡ God, as we wait for your promise,  
give light, give hope.**

## **\*PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**‡ And also with you.**

## **\*HYMN**

*"People, Look East"*

#105

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>1</sup>**

**‡ God-with-us,  
even in Advent,  
we confess that you can seem far away.  
In our hurt, doubt, and fear,  
we do not try to draw closer to you;  
instead, we lash out—  
against you, our neighbor, even those we love.  
Forgive us, we pray,  
and be with us in our doubts and fears.  
Let your face shine until our tears are dried,  
our sins are faded,  
and our hope is restored.  
After all, we belong to you,  
and in your hands,  
we can be made new.  
Hear our prayers, O God.**

*Moment for silent reflection and confession.*

## **ASSURANCE OF GRACE<sup>1</sup>**

The grace of God, given to us in Christ Jesus,  
strengthens us so that we may be strengthened  
in our faith.

**‡ Thanks be to God, who is faithful  
and has called us into the fellowship of Jesus, our Christ!**

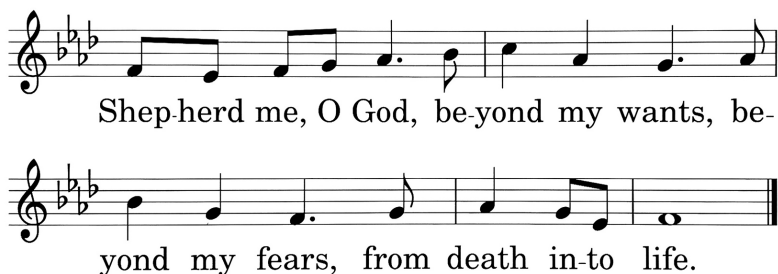
Siblings in Christ,  
trust in God's goodness  
and live into God's grace!

**\*RESPONSE TO GRACE**

**"Shepherd Me, O God"**

#473

(Refrain)



Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

## Listening for God's Word

### MOMENT JUST FOR THE CHILDREN

Faye Gardner

*Children are always welcome in worship. We know they'll make some noise during the service—we understand and welcome their participation in their own way.*

*Parents, if needed, at any time during the service you may take your children into the narthex to stretch their legs or to our special children's corner in the rear of the sanctuary. We do offer childcare upon request—please speak to the Elder in Charge in the Narthex.*

### ANTHEM

*"Waiting"*

Chancel Choir

PEPPER CHOPLIN

Waiting, we are waiting Lord.  
Fill the mind 'til we find your light, your truth.  
Waiting, we are waiting Lord.  
Fill the mind 'til we find your will, your way.

Now let us know your presence, Lord,  
Emmanuel, God be with us.  
We welcome you with open hearts,  
Emmanuel, God be with us.

Listening, we are listening Lord.  
Draw near, let us hear your Word for us.

Now let us know your presence, Lord,  
Emmanuel, God be with us.  
We welcome you with open hearts,  
Emmanuel, God be with us.

Patience, give us patience Lord.  
When we pray, give us faith that you hear every prayer.  
We are waiting. We are waiting.

**PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING<sup>1</sup>**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Isaiah 64.1-9  
Mark 13.24-37

OT pg. 694  
NT pg. 50

Word of wisdom,  
word of grace.  
✚ **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Eric O. Ledermann

*“Love is Love is Love - Part 1”*

# Responding to God’s Word

**\*RESPONSE**

*“Wait for The Lord”*

*(Psalm 27) #90*

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING<sup>1</sup>**

*Offering may be given as an act of worship during Sunday service, mailed to the church office, or through our website at [www.upctempe.org/donate](http://www.upctempe.org/donate).*

**OFFERTORY**

*“Creator of the Stars of Night”*  
(9th cent. Plainsong)  
ARR. DAVID CHERWIEN

Jon Sywassink,  
*Organist*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION<sup>1</sup>**

# The Lord’s Supper

**INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

*You are invited and encouraged to have some bread or something to eat and a drink as we celebrate the Eucharist.*

## GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

God be with you!

⌘ **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

⌘ **We lift them to our Creator.**

Let us give thanks to God.

⌘ **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

O God, we praise you...

And so, with heavenly choirs and the faithful of every time and place, we sing of your glory:

### \*SANCTUS

#### *"Holy, Holy Holy"*

#1

(verse 4)

4 Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al-might-y!  
All thy works shall praise thy name, in  
earth and sky and sea. Holy, holy, ho-ly! merciful and  
mighty! God in three per-sons, blessed Trini - ty!

In Christ you revealed your truth ...

### PRAYER OF JESUS (Modern)

⌘ **Our Creator in Heaven,  
blessed be your name.**

**Your kin-dom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Keep us from temptation,  
and deliver us from evil.**

For the kin-dom, the power,  
and the glory, are yours  
now and forever. Amen.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**\*COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

*You may come forward when invited by an usher. Receive the piece of bread as a gift from God. Receive the cup as a reminder of our common bond. Discard used communion cup on the basket provided.*

*If you have brought your own elements or are celebrating communion at home, you may receive God's gifts when you are ready.*

**\*COMMUNION HYMN**

**"One Bread, One Body"**

#530

*Refrain*

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless. And  
we, though many, through-out the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.

1 Gen-tile or Jew, ser-vant or  
2 Man-y the gifts, man-y the  
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and  
free, wom-an or man, no more.  
works, one in the Lord of all.  
grown, gath-ered to one, for all.

*Fine*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

# Sent Out in Jesus' Name

## INVITATION TO COMMUNITY

**\*HYMN**                                      *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”*                                      #82

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**\*POSTLUDE**                                      *“Waiting”*                                      Chancel Choir  
 PEPPER CHOPLIN

*The postlude is a time of reflection on how God has been  
 present to us during worship  
 and is present to us in our daily lives.*

*Remember, you are the light of the world!  
 Let your light shine!*

**Sign up for our Weekly Update email at  
[www.upctempe.org/email](http://www.upctempe.org/email)**

### Today's Worship Leaders

Elder in Charge	Wendy Sevlie
Ushers	Wendy Sevlie & Team
Worship Techs	Jim Niemann, Chris Trella
Trustee on Duty	Helen Griffin
Deacon of the Month	Cathy Richardson
Sanctuary Readiness	Larry Seubert

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2014), 257ff.

<sup>2</sup> Adapted from Ruth Burgess, *Candles & Conifers: Resources for All Saints' and Advent* (Glasgow, Scotland: Wild Goose Publications, 2005), 93-95.

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

**DEACON HONORARY PLANT:** *Given this day by Pete & Joyce Godfrey in memory of Pete's brother, Lt. Colonel William J. Godfrey.*

**MEMORIAL BOOK:** *To the Glory of God and in remembrance of William Frank Uhlig, a memorial perpetuated in Handbells by John & Florence McBrayer, 1987.*

**The World:** Prayers for peace around the world, especially in places of war, famine, strife.

**All elected leaders:** The President of the United States, members of the U.S. Congress and Senate, governors, county officials, mayors, and city council members, that they may all work toward peace for our cities, nation, and world.

**Continued Prayers:** Lori Saager and family; Dennis Gilliland; Betsy Youngs; Carl and Barbara Smith; Jim Phillips; Chet Henry's brother; Beckie Burke; Diane Watkins; Sue Coleman's nephew-in-law, Carl; Louisa and Lyle Starkey, and Rob Starkey; Joni Jacobs; Catherine May's niece, Kaycee.

**Homebound:** Helen Alderson, Joanna Fancher

**Birthdays this coming week:** Jason Knorr, Stephanie Liska, Larry Gardner

*If your birthday is missing, please contact the church office to let us know the date so we can celebrate with you!*

**Elders:** Vicki Jacobs, Katie Ranes, Sara Trower

**Deacons:** Nan Beams, Patty Griffiths, Cathy Richardson, Jey Young

**Trustees:** Helen Griffin, Pete Godfrey, Chris Trella

**Presbytery:** Lehi Mesa, Maricopa, their moderator, CRE Annette Lewis.

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## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**NO CLASSES DURING CHRISTMAS SEASON (Dec. 24 and 31):** As we welcome the presence of Christ into our lives once again, there will be no Sunday School the morning of Christmas Eve and the following Sunday (Dec. 31st). *Classes will resume on Jan. 7th.*

**CHILDREN'S BIBLE TIME (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Rm 2):** Bible Time explores lessons to be learned from Old and New Testament scriptures through music, hands-on activities, and stories. All children grades K-4 are welcome.

**YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Youth Room):** We have a great group of youth in grades 6-12 who are excited for our upcoming events. Be on the lookout for monthly service projects as part of our regular Sunday fellowship. All middle schoolers (6th-8th grades) and high schoolers (9th-10th grades) are invited to join us on Sunday mornings after worship at 11 am! If you have questions or would like more info, contact Ted Gibson, Christian Education director, at [tedgibson@upctempe.org](mailto:tedgibson@upctempe.org).

**ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Sanctuary):**

- **Dec 3 - 17** - "Awe" - An Advent Series led by Larry Gardner
- **Dec 24, 31** - No classes during Christmas season (resume Jan. 7).

**LECTIO DIVINA BIBLE STUDY (Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m., Zoom):** Join us as we read, reflect upon, and study the scripture readings for each upcoming Sunday in the Revised Common



Lectionary. With Advent we begin a new liturgical year – Year B of the Revised Common Lectionary. A list is available for download: List Form ([www.upctempe.org/rcl](http://www.upctempe.org/rcl)).

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## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

*If you have an announcement for our weekly emails and bulletin, submit it to the church office no later than Wednesday of each week. Send it to [upc@upctempe.org](mailto:upc@upctempe.org).*

*Note: All Zoom meetings may be accessed online via the links provided, or by calling (602) 753-0140 and entering the Meeting ID (the numbers in the weblinks below) and the password, "139." Long distance rates may apply.*

**DEACON POINSETTIA ORDERS:** The Deacons will have a table on the patio after worship to accept your donation of \$12.00 for a poinsettia or plant in honor of or in memory of loved ones and/or for some "special" to you. Orders will be taken on December 3rd, 10th and 17th. Your plant will be placed in the sanctuary for Christmas Eve Sunday service at 9:30 a.m. You may also use the online giving button from [upctempe.org](http://upctempe.org), contact Nancy Martin at (480) 241-9296, or leave a check at the church office payable to UPC Deacons with "Poinsettia" written in the memo line. The deacons are grateful for your support and we pray that you have a blessed Christmas.

**SANTA'S WORKSHOP (Saturday, Dec. 9, 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall):** The elves are busy at the North Pole so PW is looking for helpers to put together gift bags for those in need. This year we will be providing PAZ and Justa Center with mylar blankets, socks and treats. A local elementary school will receive backpacks filled with school supplies and we will provide 100 middle school aged girls at the Welcome Center with gift bags as well. Join us for some food, fun and holiday fellowship.

**ANGEL TREE (return gifts by Dec. 10):** PW is delighted to partner with Tempe Elementary School District to provide holiday gifts to make 50 children's wishes come true through the generosity of the UPC congregation. Wrapped gifts must be received by Dec. 10th.

**FALL CONGREGATIONAL WORK SEASON (Nov. 4-Dec. 10):** There are some remaining tasks that we are hoping to finish. Check out the list of remaining tasks to be completed by going to [www.upctempe.org/congregationalworkday](http://www.upctempe.org/congregationalworkday). Each task has a trustee who can be contacted for additional information or if supplies are needed. Most tasks will take 1 to 2 hours and can be completed at your convenience. Tasks range from washing windows to weeding and pruning. The trustees are hoping to have everything completed by the end of the day on Dec. 10th.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE (Sunday, Dec. 24, 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary, Zoom, YouTube):** Invite your neighbors and friends to join us on Christmas Eve as we give thanks for the blessings we have in Jesus and join together for an evening of lessons, carols, communion, and fellowship.

**CHRISTMAS HYMN SING (Sunday, Dec. 31, 9:30 a.m., Sanctuary, Zoom, YouTube):** The Christmas Season begins on Dec. 25th and ends on Jan. 6th (the Day of Epiphany). As we journey through Advent, mark your calendars for the Sunday following Christmas Day when we'll gather to sing Christmas carols, delight in story, and share in prayers for our world. *We will invite those present in-person or on Zoom to make hymn suggestions.*

**DINNER FOR EIGHT (starting in January):** Would you like to get better acquainted with others from UPC? Join the next group of DINNER FOR EIGHT which will begin in January of 2024. What is Dinner For Eight? Groups of 6, 7, or 8 people take turns hosting a gathering once a month for four months for a meal and conversation. The emphasis is on fun and friendship, so you don't have to be a great cook to participate! During a four-month period you will host only once, and will be a guest on three occasions. When it is your turn to host, you decide when and where. Visit the signup table in the courtyard after worship, or contact Margaret Branson at (224) 406-1507 or [mlherbst90@gmail.com](mailto:mlherbst90@gmail.com).

**RISE SHINE BREAD:** We have delivered 4,874 mini-loaves and 3,925 full-sized loaves of bread to those in need. Thanks to the UPC bakers and please invite your friends to become a baker. Please contact Andrea White at [info@riseshinebread.org](mailto:info@riseshinebread.org) or (480) 580-3021. Here is a link to a video you can view! <https://youtu.be/Go5llLLjTuw>.

**SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP PAD ([www.upctempe.org/fellowship](http://www.upctempe.org/fellowship), or scan the QR code):**

If you are attending worship either on Zoom or YouTube, remember to complete the online Fellowship Pad and include your prayer requests. Also, please include any new contact info (phone, email, etc.) and check the "New contact info" box. ***If your contact info has not changed, you do not need to include your address or phone number.***



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## UPC WEEKLY CALENDAR

Find Zoom links and calendar updates at  
[www.upctempe.org/events](http://www.upctempe.org/events).

Subscribe to the Weekly Update for Zoom links:  
[www.upctempe.org/email](http://www.upctempe.org/email)

### Sun., Dec 3

*First Sunday of Advent*

9:30 am	Worship Service (S, Z, YouTube)
11:00 am	Adult Christian Education - ACE (S)
11:00 am	Children's Bible Time (Rm 3)
11:00 am	Youth Fellowship (Rm 9)
3:00 pm-5:00 pm	Cookies & Carols - Choir Concert & PW Bazaar (FH, K)

### Mon., Dec 4

4:30 pm	ACE Team (ZP)
7:00 pm	Administration Committee (ZP)
8:30 pm	AA Meeting (Rm 7)

**Tue., Dec 5**

7:00 pm PW Christmas Tea (FH, K)

**Wed., Dec 6**

9:00 am Lectio Divina Bible Study (ZU)  
10:15 am Office Calendaring Meeting (CR)  
3:45 pm Worship Planning Team (ZU)  
5:15 pm-6:15 pm Wednesday Church Dinner (FH, K)  
6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice (S)  
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Practice (S)

**Thu., Dec 7**

8:00 am TOPS (MR, Rm 7)  
7:00 pm CE Committee (ZU)

**Fri., Dec 8**

3:00 pm I-HELP (FH, K) Meal: Sai Organization  
8:30 pm A.A. Meeting (Rm 7)

**Sat., Dec 9**

7:00 am - 9:00 am Men's Breakfast for I-HELP (FH, K)  
8:00 am Men's Breakfast (MR)

**Sun., Dec 10**

*Second Sunday of Advent*

9:30 am Worship Service (S, Z, YouTube)  
11:00 am Adult Christian Education - ACE (S)  
11:00 am Children's Bible Time (Rm 3)  
11:00 am Youth Fellowship (Rm 9)

Location/Room References:

(CH)-Choir Room (CR)-Conference Room/Office (COR/Rm7)-Community Room  
(FH)-Fellowship Hall (MG) Memorial Garden (HSR)-High School Room  
(MSR)-Middle School Room (K)-Fellowship Hall Kitchen  
(L)-Lounge (MR)-Meeting Room (PO)-Pastor's Office  
(Rm#)-Room Number Indicated (S)-Sanctuary  
(Z)-On Zoom (See Weekly Update or UPC Calendar for links)



***Open and Affirming to All, Glorifying God, Growing in Love***

139 E. Alameda Dr. • Tempe, AZ 85282 • 480.966.6267

www.upctempe.org • e-mail: upc@upctempe.org

**Office Hours: Tue-Fri, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

Ministers	All Members
Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Ledermann
Clerk of Session	Brigitta Kuiper
Director of Music & Christian Education	Ted Gibson
Organist	Jon Sywassink
Administrative Assistant	Lori Saager
Treasurer/Bookkeeper	Andrea White
Attendance Secretaries	Sharlan Pierce, Jeanette Miller
Custodian	Carrie Miter

**Pastor's Office Hours:**

*Available by appointment Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays  
Contact the church office or the pastor to schedule,  
or go to [www.upctempe.org/pastorschedule](http://www.upctempe.org/pastorschedule).*