

God of faith, you created humanity to serve and praise you; and even when we rebelled against you, you promised to send a Savior to redeem us from our sins:

Strengthen our faith in your saving work through Christ. As you chose the people of Israel to hear the promise of redemption through the prophets, may people today believe in your good will for all that you have made.

God of love, you fulfilled your promise of a redeemer in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ:

Grant us the gifts of the Holy Spirit that we may share your love with the sick and the afflicted, with the poor and the homeless, with the victims of injustice and discrimination, and with all who are experiencing times of trouble.

God of hope, you comfort us through our Savior's promise to return in glory at the end of time:

As we await the coming of the Prince of Peace, let us not despair. We long for you to inspire all the nations and peoples of the world to turn to cooperation and nurture, rather than to hatred and destruction.

God of faith, love, and hope, to you and to you alone we pray:

For you are our God, the only God, forever and ever. Amen.

Choir: "Hosanna"

(Standing)

Lord, you have kept the promise you made to our ancestors and have come to the help of your servant people.

You remembered to show mercy to Abraham and Sarah and to all their descendants forever!

We praise you, Lord. You are enthroned in glory, yet you came and continue to come for all who will receive you. We praise you, for you are good, and your mercy endures forever.

To you be glory and power, forever and ever. Amen.

**Pastors, Rev. John G. Rights & Rev. Adam Goodrich
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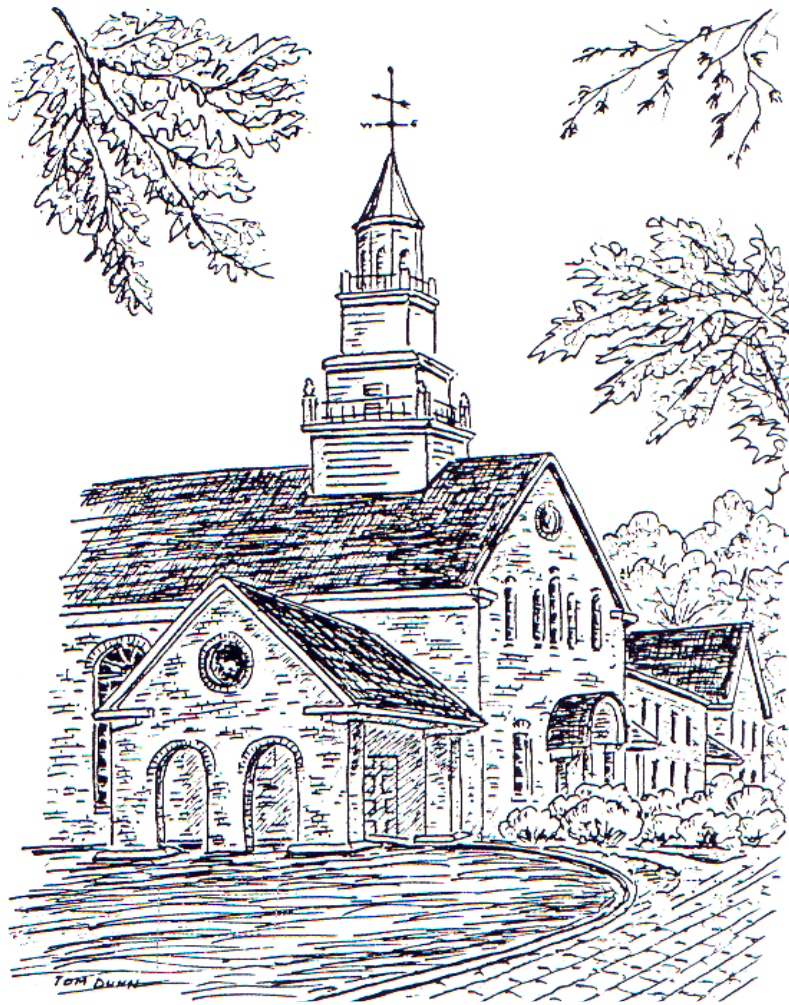
Friedland Moravian Church

First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020

Worship 10:00 AM

Our purpose is to make the Lord Jesus Christ a reality in the lives of people.



The Rev. Adam Goodrich & The Rev. John G. Rights, Pastors
Reed Lawson, Student Pastor

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Order of Service

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle Hymn “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus” Ethan Webb

Liturgy Liturgy for Advent

Scripture Reading Isaiah 64:1-9
1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Children’s Message

Anthem “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Hopson

Scripture Reading Matthew 13:24-37

Sermon

Hymn “Veiled in Darkness Judah Lay”

Benediction

Postlude

Watchword for the week: Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in the clouds’ with great power and glory. Mark 13:26

Mission Prayer Focus: Pray for medical personnel serving in the war against Covid-19.

Please place your offering in the box by the entrance before or after the service.

The Advent Wreath on the altar today is presented to the Glory of God and in celebration of the First Sunday of Advent, by the Women’s Fellowship as we light the candle of Hope.
Hope, Peace, Joy, Love

At the request of the Elders, in order to preserve a reverent spirit of worship, please silence your cell phone, refrain from taking pictures, and do not bring food or drink into the sanctuary.

Liturgy for Advent

(Standing)

Shout for joy, you heavens; rejoice, all the earth! The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people together will see it. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Rejoice greatly, shout for joy! See, your king is coming to you. He is righteous and brings salvation.

We praise you, the Lord God of Israel! You came to the help of your people and have set them free.

You have raised up for us a mighty Savior, a descendant of your servant David.

You promised through your holy prophets long ago that you would save us from our enemies, from the power of all those who hate us.

You have shown the mercy promised to our ancestors and have remembered your holy covenant.

With a solemn oath to our ancestor Abraham, you promised to rescue us from our enemies and allow us to serve you without fear,

So that we might be holy and righteous before you all the days of our life.

By your tender mercy you cause the bright dawn of salvation to rise on us,

To give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

(Sitting)

The voice of the messenger echoes from the desert, calling us to prepare the way of the Lord and to make a straight path on which he may come. Let us confess our sins, so that our crooked ways will be made straight and the rough ways smooth.

Gracious Lord Jesus, you come to us with the good news of salvation, but too often we fail to notice. You come to us day by day, yet we close the doors of our hearts when it seems convenient to do things our own way. We ignore your presence and your leadership. We have failed to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. Forgive us, merciful Lord. May we live so that the world will know that you have come. Amen.

Through John the Baptizer, we hear the Lord's promise: Turn away from your sins, and God will forgive your sins.

Choir: “Lift up your heads, you mighty gates”

Eternal God, Ruler of all ages, graciously you come to us in order that we might come to you, through the merit of Jesus Christ, strengthened by the Holy Spirit.

Help us and all your children to respond to the call of your gospel with faith, love, and hope.