

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

1st Sunday in Advent

November 28, 2021

HOMESICK (Hope)

*God of all generations,
though signs and seasons change,
your promise is faithful
and your word will never pass away.
Give us courage and strength
as we watch and wait
for Jesus Christ, our redeemer,
who is coming in glory to reign. Amen*

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Savior of the Nations Come

CALL TO WORSHIP

Can one be homesick for something you've never known?

**We are homesick for a just world,
for peace like rivers,
for the end of suffering.**

Yes, we are homesick—

**For joy that is contagious,
for nations that feel like neighbors,
and for hospitals that run empty.**

We are home sick for the world God promises.

We are homesick, but we are on our way.

God is here. God is still creating.

Let us worship Holy God.

CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY

SONG OF PRAISE Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn! Hymnal, No. 107

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

So let us confess today, knowing that nothing could keep God from loving us.

Gracious God,

**We find ourselves with two options every day—
to stay homesick for the world you had in mind, or to allow cynicism
to win.**

Do we hope against hope, or do we throw in the towel?

Do we insist on a better world, or do we assume it's impossible?

Forgive us for the days when cynicism wins.

**Forgive us for numbing our homesick hurt instead of using it to fuel a
better world.**

Kindle in us a hope that won't let go.

Gratefully we pray, amen.

*DOXOLOGY Doxology (Verse 4) Hymnal, No. 143
All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING SONG Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence Hymnal, No. 347

BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

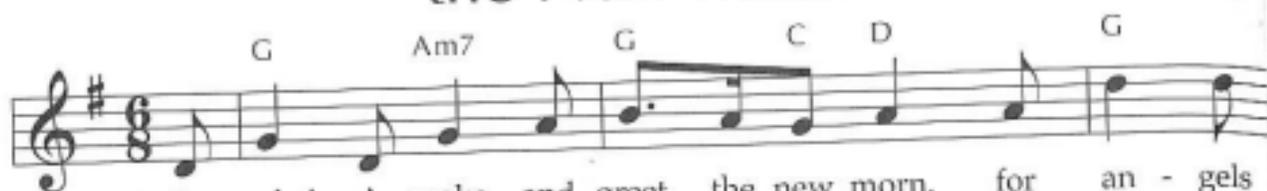
Lectionary Readings for December 5: Jeremiah 33:14-16 and Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36.

We are truly grateful for you joining us today, in person or via live streaming. This is new for us all, and we thank you for your patience with this new way. We will be adapting and changing as we work together to worship with devotion and safety protocols. If you have comments or suggestions, please let the pastor or a worship committee member know.

The Food & Shelter item of the month for **November is any non-perishable Thanksgiving items**. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table

Hearing-assistance devices and **large print hymnals** are available from the head usher.

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



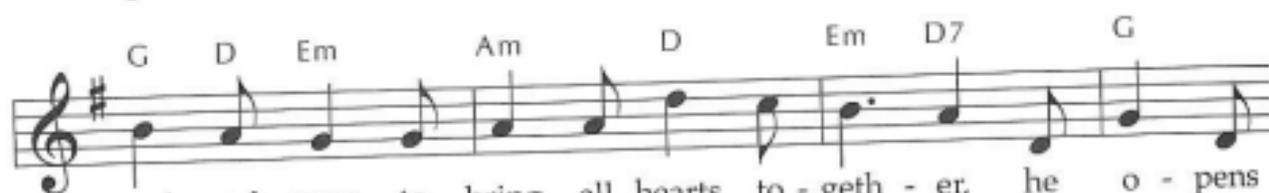
1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for an - gels
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em - man - u -
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when all the
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night. Though dark the



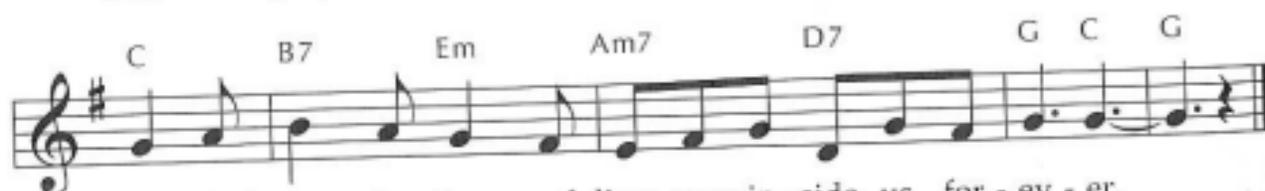
her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for soon he is
 el comes a - sing - ing; his hum - ble song is qui - et and
 world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so qui - et and
 win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall crown you with



born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing. Come as a ba - by
 near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing; mu - sic to heal the
 free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing. Then shall the mute break
 light; be strong and lov - ing and fear - less. Love be our song and



weak and poor, to bring all hearts to - geth - er, he o - pens
 bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing - kind - ness. The thun - der
 forth in song, the lame shall leap in won - der, the weak be
 love our prayer and love our end - less sto - ry; may God fill



wide the heaven - ly door and lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
 of his an - thems rolls to shat - ter all ha - tred and vio - lence.
 raised a - bove the strong, and weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 ev - ery day we share and bring us at last in - to glo - ry.



See Fig Leaves Now Sprouting

ES IST EIN' ROS' 7.6.7.6.6.7.6

Text: Anna Strickland (2021)

Music: Geisliche Kirchengasäng (1599)

See fig tree leaves now sprout - ing Soon sum-mer comes
Sun, moon, and stars a - bove us Speak of God's pro -

a - gain Cre - a - tion groans in la - bor For
mised day To make space for our new home This

God's reign to pass be - gin We wait with ba - ted breath
world must pass a - way When we are filled with dread

2

Home-sick for God's true kin - dom Age with-out hate
The words of Christ up-hold us: "A - rise and raise

or death
your head"

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Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence 347

Capo 3: (Bm)



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and
 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard
 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim, with



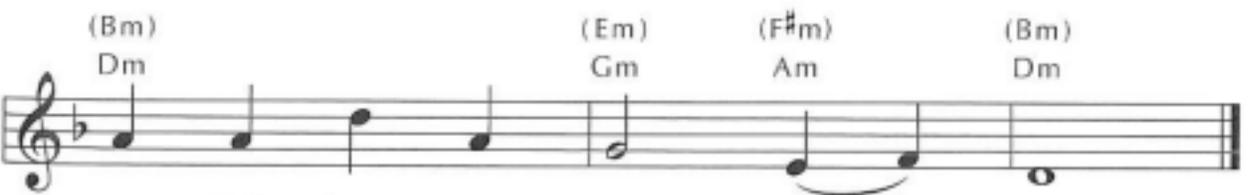
trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly
 earth he stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man
 on the way, as the Light of light de -
 sleep - less eye, veil their fac - es to the



mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
 ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
 scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,
 pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,



Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,
 he will give to all the faith - ful
 that the powers of hell may van - ish
 "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



our full hom - age to de - mand.
 his own self for heaven - ly food.
 as the shad - ows clear a - way.
 al - le - lu - ia, Lord most high!"