



**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
HOPE
NOVEMBER 29, 2020**



Good Morning! Welcome to Riviera's virtual worship service. We're delighted that you are connecting with us today. Even when we're physically apart, the Holy Spirit unites us as one community!

Even when we can't *go to church*, **we are the church!**

Let us know you worshiped with us today by filling out the Friendship Form located on our website www.rivierachurch.org WORSHIP page. If you are joining us via Facebook or YouTube, please check in or leave us a comment so we know you are worshipping with us today. Don't forget to keep checking our various social media outlets, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, for up-to-date information.

“The primary symbolism of the Advent Candles has to do with light growing in darkness- leading up to the coming of Jesus, the light of the world.

From the Book of Common Worship

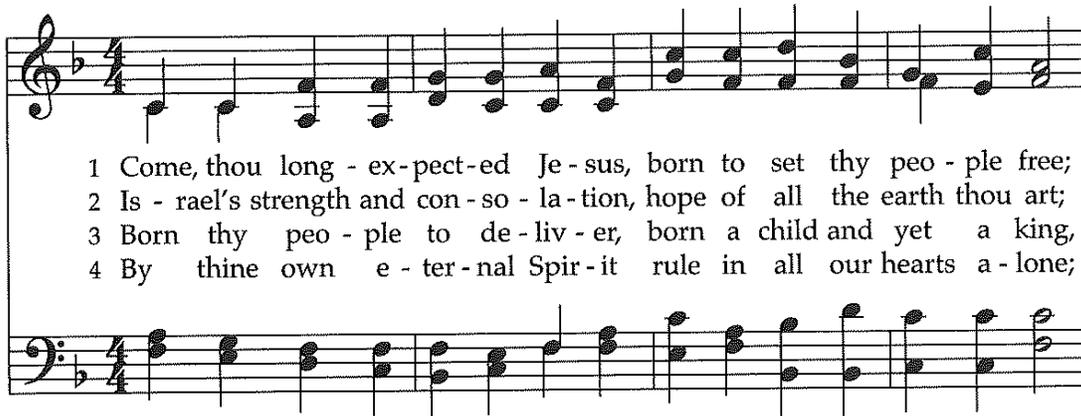
The Liturgies for the lighting of the Advent Wreath were written by the staff of the Presbytery of Tropical Florida. Presbyterian Churches throughout South Florida will be using the same liturgies each Sunday symbolizing our being Vibrant Together.

In unity and connections with one another we anticipate the advent of Christ among us.

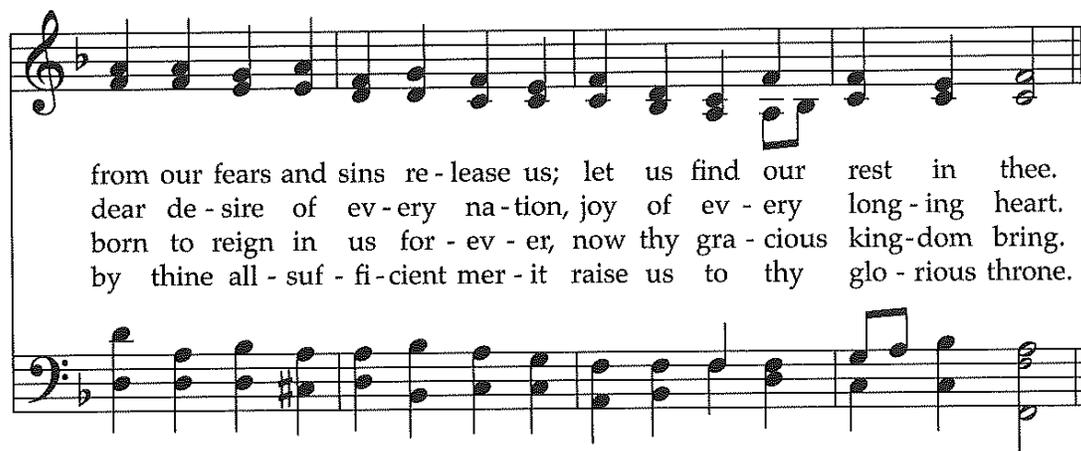
GATHERING

OPENING HYMN

83 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR & WELCOMING THE LIGHT

WELCOME

Rev. Martha M. Shiverick

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE - THE CANDLE OF HOPE

Morgan, Dylan, and Dustin

Today the Candle of Hope is lit. Consider hope.
As a church, we are a community of hope in the long night of the global pandemic.
Our hope is in Christ, and even as we wait, such hope lights the way.

(Light Candle) Jesus says: I am coming soon.

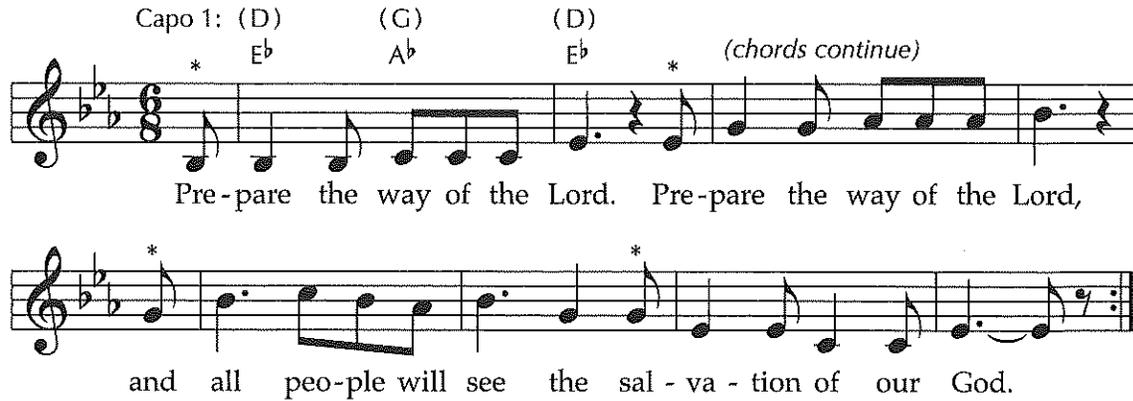
We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.
As it was promised in the days to come:
The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares.
And their spears into pruning hooks;
Nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
Neither shall they learn war anymore. (Isa 2:4)

Let us pray:
Holy God, the darkness is long.
We long to dance in the sunlight,
And yet the extended nights of loneliness
Stretch so very long as we wait.
In the dimness we long for that flicker,
We long for that star-light of hope;
For it burns bright like a candle in the dark.
Our hope, our longing is in You, our God.
Set us aflame with hope.
We wait in hope with all your people
Through the ages and into tomorrow. **Amen.**

HYMN

Prepare the Way of the Lord 95

Capo 1: (D) (G) (D)
* E^b A^b E^b * (chords continue)



Pre-prepare the way of the Lord. Pre-prepare the way of the Lord,
and all peo-ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God.

**May be sung as a canon.*

All three synoptic gospels identify John the Baptist as the forerunner of the Messiah (Matthew 3:3/Mark 1:2-3/Luke 3:4) in accord with Isaiah's prophecy (Isaiah 40:3b). Because the latter part of the text (Isaiah 52:10b) has yet to be accomplished, this is still our mission today.

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1984
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1984
Text and Music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

PREPARE THE WAY
7.7.6.7

CALL TO CONFESSION

Karen Collier

How can we stand in the presence of God?

Let us confess those places where we need to grow to prepare for Christ to come into our lives.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God-with-us,
even in Advent,
we confess that you seem far away.
You are hidden when we need you near.
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 come to save us!
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.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We ask God to tear open the heavens and come down;
But God will not perform according to our wants and whims.
Instead, God comes like the sound of sheer silence:
Thin, Quiet.
Instead God is born among us as an infant.
Instead God shows us how love is made perfect in weakness.
So we will stay alert through this Advent, knowing God loves us and that we
are God's people, and that there is no other God besides ours.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Anna Rosas

AWAY IN A MANGER (ONE VERSE PLAYED)

Away in a Manger

114

Capo 5: (C) F (Am) Dm (C) F (Dm) Gm

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes,
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

(F) B^b (G) C (C) F (Dm) Gm (F) B^b (G) C

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
 close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

(C) F (Dm) Gm

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
 I love thee, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky,
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

(G) C (C) F (Dm) Gm (G) C (C) F

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
 and fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

This anonymous carol probably originated among Pennsylvania Lutherans in the late 19th century, giving rise to a mistaken assertion that it had been written by Martin Luther. This tune is also by an American but has become the one usually used in Canada and Great Britain.

TEXT: Stanzas 1-2, *Little Children's Book for Schools and Families*, c. 1885;
 stanza 3, *Gabriel's Vineyard Songs*, 1892
 MUSIC: William James Kirkpatrick, 1895

CRADLE SONG
 11.11.11.11
 (alternate tune: MUELLER, 115)

THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Sandy Barrow

Gracious God, heaven and earth will pass away,
but your word will not pass away:

Your Word stands forever.

May our generation be attentive so that,
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
we remember your ways and gladly do right,
meeting you wherever and whenever you appear.

In Christ's name we pray. **Amen.**

CHORAL ANTHEM Light One Candle

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 1:18-23 Sandy Barrow

SERMON Rev. Martha M. Shiverick
‘Messianic Hopes and Expectations’

THE RESPONSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

Michelle Garcia and Stephanie Godoy

God of power and glory, we remember your awesome deeds across the ages. -
The times you saved us and brought us home.

Yet we also remember the times when we have felt alone and afraid and ask
that you look upon us with love in our times of need.

We pray for those who look to you for healing and hope...
for those who are sick or recuperating from illness or injury...
for those who are lonely and need companionship and care...
for those for whom the holidays bring sorrow or pain,
whose deep sadness overshadows any joy.

We pray that they feel your presence and love.

We pray for people in need of reconciliation
for those who battle addictions and for whom this holiday season is tough to
live one day at a time.

We pray for people who feel the weight of grief while others are filled with merriment and joy,
and we pray for those who are far from home while others surround themselves with family and loved ones.

God, as we begin this season of Advent, we hold each other in prayer, knowing that as a community and family of faith, we will usher in the holiday celebrating the one born in a manger as we also try and bring hope, love, and joy to this world.

Now let us together pray in the manner that Christ taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

For the Lord's Prayer we appreciate the diverse traditions and backgrounds that make up the Riviera family of faith, and encourage you to use whatever words for this prayer are meaningful for you.

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

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

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Martha M. Shiverick

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Martha M. Shiverick

Lord, we give you thanks that in the coming of Christ
your steadfast love and faithfulness have met
and your righteousness and peace have kissed.

May the gifts we offer this day lift up those in need and prepare the way of your salvation. **Amen.**

INVITATION TO GIVE TITHES AND OFFERINGS

The Act of Gratitude

1. You may donate today via credit/debit card by visiting our website at www.rivierachurch.org and clicking on the GIVE button
2. You may download the free Give+ app (iOS & Android)
3. You may consider setting up online payment via your bank bill pay program.
4. You may also mail in your check to the church at Riviera Presbyterian Church at 5275 Sunset Drive, Miami FL 33143

If you are a member of another church, please donate to them during this time

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, ye hosts in heaven above;
Praise God, the Trinity of Love. Amen*

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Martha Shiverick

CLOSING HYMN

Please join us on Zoom for Holy Grounds Fellowship Gathering at 12:45pm
Meeting ID 829-1129-7119
Passcode 056833

115 Away in a Manger

Capo 3: (D) F (G) B \flat (D) F

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes,
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

(A7) C7 (D) F

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
 close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

(G) B \flat (D) F

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
 I love thee, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky,
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

(A7) C7 (D) F (Em) Gm (A7) C7 (D) F

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is night.
 and fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

Though erroneously attributed to Martin Luther, this anonymous carol has North American roots, probably originating among Pennsylvania Lutherans. Although more than forty melodies have been connected with these words, this tune was among the earliest written for them.



Thank you for worshipping at Riviera today. Please take a moment fill out the Friendship Form on our website and share any prayer requests or joys which will be sent to our pastoral care team.

If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please send us an email at rivierachurch@gmail.com.



Next Sunday Morning You Are Invited for Zoom Online Adult Bible Study Class

10:00 am - 10:30 am

This is a great opportunity to study Sunday's sermon passage with Pastor Missy.

Meeting 860-148-3445

Password: 2708



The Riviera Food Pantry

Current Needs

Peanut Butter

Pasta

Pasta Sauce

Granola Bars

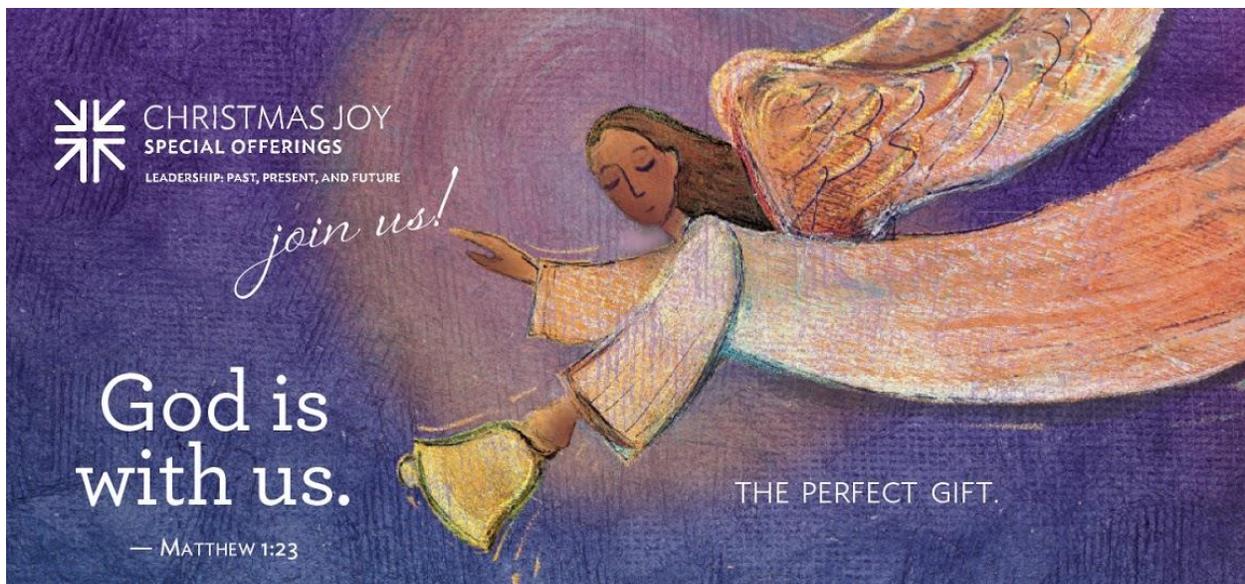
Canned Soup, Tuna, Veggies and Fruit

1 lb rice bags

Dried beans

Boxed Mac and Cheese

You may also send monetary donations via our [online service](#), via your bank's bill pay, or mail a check to the church. --Thank you.



One of the most powerful things that Christians claim is that God saw the great needs of the world and offered a perfect gift in response, a gift that brought God and humanity closer together. God's perfect gift, Jesus Christ. "Emmanuel, God is with us!" our Advent dream proclaims, as God joins in human life, and draws us together as a result. "God is with us" shows God values togetherness and relationship with us, leading us to value togetherness and relationship with one another. When we are all together — and even when we are apart.

During these past months, many of us weren't able to be together in person, but we have always been together in spirit, and in faith. We have missed seeing faces we love — up close and personal, but the physical distance has also revealed, for us, the importance of those things which bring us together, even when we are physically far apart.

We offer our gifts during this Advent Season to the Christmas Joy Offering because God shows us the power and importance of being together, of "being with." We might not be able to meet face to face with those who need the support that our gifts provide, but we are very much still together. We see the potential of students of color who will become our leaders and we seek to come alongside them, to encourage them, to be together with them. And we see church workers who have critical financial needs and we come alongside them, to assist them — we are with them. And we see the witness of the whole Church, either gathered in buildings or connected home to home, member to member, sharing what we have, together. We thank God for being "with us" through the gift of Jesus and for joining us together as the Church and, through our gifts, with those who have need.

Our goal for 2020 is \$950. You can contribute to the offering on our website — www.rivierachurch.org or clicking on this link <https://bit.ly/331a5E8>

Be a Gift Angel for Frances Tucker Elementary Students!

- Donate \$20 per student
- Rivierachurch.org/give
- Will be delivered in December



**SAVE
THE
DATE!**

Cookie Baking & Decorating Get-Together

Zoom: With Susan Mazzola
Make: Sugar Cookies (or use purchased sugar cookie dough)
Create: Cut out Christmas shapes
Bake: Yummy smells will come out of your oven
Decorate: Use ready-made frostings and decorations
Share: Your edible creations with Riviera on Sunday's Holy Grounds Zoom
More information to follow - An ingredient and prep list will be available.

Saturday, Dec. 12 from 3 to 4 p.m.



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Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
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Away In A Manger
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Prepare the way of the Lord
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Jacques Berthier, 1984; ©1984 Les Presses
de Taize GIA Publications, Inc.

Light One Candle
Walter Busse

Away In a Manger - Public Domain

Riviera Presbyterian Church - PCUSA
(A Member Congregation of the Presbytery of Tropical Florida)
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rivierachurch@gmail.com | www.rivierachurch.org

 Check in on Facebook and connect with us.

Ministers	All the People
Pastor	Rev. Martha M. Shiverick
Parish Associate for Visitation	Rev. Rosemary Noga Welton
Parish Associate for Visitation	Rev. Dr. David Welton
Director of Music	Dr. Walter Busse
Youth Education and Outreach Assistant	Anna E. Rosas
Certified Church Administrator	Barbara Prieto
Nursery Care Giver	Josephine Gurri
Custodian	Mary Lopez

Session	Session	Session
<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
Kyle Dettloff	Karen Collier	Susan Admire
Vivian German	Barbara Overton	Amparo Hernandez
Rey Prieto	Susan Mazzola	Bryan Page
Cris Sweeny	Mimi Sutherland	Michele Ready