

**First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2009 10:00 a.m.**

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***Our mission is to change peoples' lives
through a relationship with Jesus Christ.***

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~WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE~

Greeting of Peace

Prelude

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Advent Candle-Lighting Liturgy

First Sunday in Advent: Waiting in Hope

L: On this first Sunday in Advent we light this candle and name it Hope. When we light it, we feel excited. We are looking forward to something special. What can it be? When is it going to happen? When we light this candle, we feel hopeful as we wait in this season.

P: *This candle reminds us that the prophet Isaiah was longing for God's Presence too. It reminds us that the people in the early church were also longing for God's presence.*

L: This candle is a symbol for our own longing for God to be with us. We wait in hope for God to surprise us and break into our lives.

All: *O God, come travel with us through Advent. Give us courage to spread hope in the world. Amen.*

Hymn "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" **#196**

This Week at Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church

A Time For The Child In All Of Us

Offertory "Open the Eyes of My Heart"

Doxology

#95

Offertory Prayer

Thank you, God, for this family of faith, which enriches our lives and enables us to share. Thank you for making us aware that some faint with fear and others dwell in hopelessness. We are grateful that you show us ways to lift the burdens of our sisters and brothers. May our offerings further this ministry among us and beyond our community. Amen.

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~WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD~

Anthem "Knowing You (All I Once Held Dear)"

by Graham Kendrick

Reading of the Word

Gospel

Luke 1: 45-47

Matthew 1: 18-25

Hymn

"I Could Sing of Your Love Forever"

Insert

Message "What If Worship Were an Outpouring of our Hearts?"

Rev. Michele Ewers

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~WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE~

A Time For Prayer

Dean Fortin

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

