



# Order for the Worship of God

OPENING PRAYER

Highland Presbyterian Church

*First Sunday of Advent  
November 29, 2015*

**Living Christ, Jesus of Nazareth,  
Teacher and Friend, Savior and Lord,  
We love you and long for your presence.  
As we follow the story of your coming,  
touch us by your Spirit,  
that through people we know  
and through people we have yet to meet,  
we may hear your voice and heed your call.  
In your name we pray. Amen.**

## GATHERING

+HYMN

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

GATHERING MUSIC (9:15 a.m.)

LSU Brass Quintet LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE: HOPE Con

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Kelly This is an Advent candle ring. It shows the circle of God's unbroken love. There are five candles. We light a new candle each Sunday from now until Christmas. What is the point in doing this?

PRELUDE

LSU Brass Quintet

CALL TO WORSHIP

Doris M. Thompson Because the old proverb is true:  
"What I hear, I forget.  
What I see, I remember.  
What I do, I understand."

Awake! Rejoice!  
Prepare to meet your God!  
Christ is coming.  
Open the Door.  
Sweep the path.  
Prepare the way!

As we light our Advent candles, may they bring us together in the warmth of God's love.

The gospel of Luke speaks about the future:

**Christ came at Christmas to live as one of us.  
Christ comes today to love us and to lead us.  
Christ will come tomorrow, wherever we may be.**

"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars,  
and on the earth, distress among nations.  
People will faint from fear and foreboding." (Luke 21:25-26)

Christ will come when time and space are ended,  
and everything returns to God.

Because our world is full of fear and distress, we light our first candle trusting that Christ is alive on earth and that the Spirit of Christ lives in us.

**Even so, come Lord Jesus, come! Amen**

**Living Christ, in you we have hope.  
We trust you, we love you, we praise you. Amen.**

+At this sign, you are invited to rise in body or in spirit. **Bold: all people respond**

CALL TO CONFESSION

SILENT TIME OF PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God,  
remove from us now  
empty words, idle words,  
and hollow deeds.**

**Fill us with the Spirit of truth,  
that we may know  
that you are real,  
that you are here,  
and that we are yours,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE AND FORGIVENESS

+PASSING THE PEACE

Let the hope of Christ fill your hearts to overflowing.  
We are all called to this hope, to share in it as a single body.  
The hope of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

ANTHEM

## THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 33:14-16

HYMN

*While We Are Waiting, Come*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Luke 21:25-36

SERMON

WATCHFULNESS AND WONDER

## RESPONSE

+HYMN

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH ~ *Apostles Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the  
of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead,  
descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence  
judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion  
forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.**

PRAYERS OF HOPE

D

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

L

+DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

LSU Brass Quintet

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## SENDING

+HYMN  
see insert

*People, Look East*

+BENEDICTION  
Pastor Kelly

+POSTLUDE

L