



## Bellflower UMC

November 28, 2021

First Sunday of Advent

## GREETINGS <sup>1 2</sup>

People, look east. The time is near  
Of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
Trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the guest, is on the way.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

## PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING

## CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>3</sup>

The days are surely coming, says the Lord,  
when I will cause a righteous Branch to spring forth and  
bring my promised salvation to Israel.

**The Lord is our righteousness.**

The days are surely coming, says our God,  
when justice and mercy will be executed  
throughout the land.

**The Lord is our righteousness.**

The days are surely coming, says the Lord,  
when my promised one will teach transgressors my  
ways, and heal the world with love and mercy.

**The Lord is our righteousness.**

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING<sup>4</sup>

*Reader One:* We have endured these past few years and  
know that there is more to face before us. We don't  
know if we have the strength to withstand what might be

---

<sup>1</sup> Cover art by John Stuart, [www.stushieart.com](http://www.stushieart.com).

<sup>2</sup> Eleanor Farjeon. *People, Look East*. 1928.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Derek C. Weber, Discipleship Ministries. <http://umcdiscipleship.org>

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Derek C. Weber, Discipleship Ministries. <http://umcdiscipleship.org>

around the next corner. And we wonder who will stand with us, who will have our back, who will occupy our corner.

*Reader Two:* Who is with us? That is what we begin to wonder these days. Who will light our way and chart our course? Who is on our side, who will welcome us home again?

*Reader One:* Home. The prophet Jeremiah speaks of a branch that will be raised. Jesus spoke of a Son of Man that will descend. Both point to a hope. A hope that calls us home. Our true home, where we're welcomed and loved and included. Where there is justice and equality and peace. It's time, this Advent season, time to go home.

*Reader Two:* We light this candle, as a sign of our hope, our strong hope that there is a way to go home. To the home in Christ, and it starts with us, and it starts here, and it starts now. It's time to go home.

*Light the first candle on the Advent wreath*

## HYMN

**Good Christian Friends, Rejoice 224**

**Hark! the Herald Angels Sing 240**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

**LORD'S PRAYER - UMH895**

**OT READING - Jeremiah 33:14-16**

**GOSPEL - Luke 21:25-36**

**SERMON**

**OFFERING & PEACE**

## DOXOLOGY

HOLY COMMUNION - UMH13 or UMH17

POSTLUDE

BENEDICTION<sup>5</sup>

You know the time is coming!

**The time to wake from our sleep.**

Salvation is nearer to us now than we became believers

**The night is gone, the day is near.**

Let us lay aside the works of darkness.

**We will wear the armor of light.**

---

Bellflower UMC spreads God's love within our church family and throughout our communities and world using our prayers, our gifts and our service; thus to become a shelter of love and a community of compassion..

To learn more, visit [facebook.com/Bellflower.UMC](https://facebook.com/Bellflower.UMC)

If you would like a prayer, a visit, a meal, to have Holy Communion brought to your home, or have any other need, please contact any church member or Pastor Rob (309-722-1500, [pastor@bellflower-umc.org](mailto:pastor@bellflower-umc.org)).

---

<sup>5</sup> UM Book of Worship, 243. Adapted.