



Mt Vernon UMC

November 28, 2021

First Sunday of Advent

GREETINGS ^{1 2}

Katie Stout

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 WORSHIP³

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 LIGHTING⁴

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

¹ Cover art by John Stuart, www.stushieart.com.

² Eleanor Farjeon. *People, Look East*. 1928.

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

⁴ 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

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

HOLY COMMUNION - UMH13 or UMH17

POSTLUDE

BENEDICTION⁵

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.

God calls Mt Vernon UMC to:

Love God & neighbor as Jesus taught

Learn together of God's love and grace

Serve others by using our God given gifts and talents

Be witnesses of our faith in God through Jesus Christ to all the world!.

To learn more, visit facebook.com/MtVChamp

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 (217-751-4400, pastor@mtvernon-umc.org).

⁵ UM Book of Worship, 243. Adapted.

