



# Advent & Christmas 2023

## For Unto Us - Advent 2023

**Invocation/Call to Worship** – (Responsive – Psalm 85:1-4,7)

<sup>1</sup> You, LORD, showed favor to your land;  
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

<sup>2</sup> **You forgave the iniquity of your people  
and covered all their sins.**

<sup>3</sup> You set aside all your wrath and turned from your fierce anger.

<sup>4</sup> **Restore us again, God our Savior,  
and put away your displeasure toward us.**

<sup>7</sup> Show us your unfailing love, LORD, and grant us your salvation.

Opening Prayer

\* Hymn: *Come, Thou Savior of Our Race* . . . . . **Red #8**

\* Nicene Creed: **I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made: Who for us, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And is seated on the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. Amen.**

Christmas Carol Hymn Sing

Old Testament

Genesis 22

Some time later God tested Abraham...<sup>2</sup> God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you..." <sup>6</sup> Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, <sup>7</sup> Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the

### Special Services

#### For Unto Us

##### Advent Service at Hope

*Galatians 4:4-7*

*A Child Is Born*

Online at FAHope.org

##### Advent Service at First Am.

*John 3:16-21*

*A Son Is Given*

Wednesday, Dec. 13 – 7:30 p.m.

##### Carol & Candlelight Service at First American

*Isaiah 9:2-7*

*A Ruler Shall Come*

Christmas Eve, 7:30 pm

##### Christmas Day

*Titus 3:4-7*

*A Savior Has Been Born*

Monday, Dec. 25

#### Christmas Programs

##### First American:

Sun, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>, 10:45 a.m.

##### Hope:

Christmas Eve, 6:00 p.m.

### He Will Be Called

Sunday Morning Services

Online at FAHope.org

*Isaiah 64:1-9*

*Mighty God*

Online at FAHope.org

*Mark 1:1-8*

*Prince of Peace*

December 17 (Hope Only)

*1 Thessalonians 5:16-24*

*Wonderful Counselor*

December 24 – Christmas Eve

*2 Samuel 7:1-11,16*

*Everlasting Father*



lamb for the burnt offering?”<sup>8</sup> Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them went on together.<sup>9</sup> When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham...bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.<sup>10</sup> Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.<sup>11</sup> But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied.<sup>12</sup> “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.”<sup>13</sup> Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son.<sup>14</sup> So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide. And to this day it is said, “On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided.”<sup>15</sup> The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time<sup>16</sup> and said, “I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son,<sup>17</sup> I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies,<sup>18</sup> and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

\*Gospel John 3:16-21

<sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.  
<sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.  
<sup>18</sup> Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.  
<sup>19</sup> This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.  
<sup>20</sup> Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed.  
<sup>21</sup> But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

Sermon: *A Son Is Given* . . . . Pastor Barry Nelson

\* Hymn: *The Only Son from Heaven* . . . . . **Red #16**

\* 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; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Benediction

**John 3:16-21**  
“A Son Is Given”

December 13, 2023

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## 1. The Promised Son

## 2. To Save the World

## 3. To Be Received by Faith