

# THE SEASON OF ADVENT



December 22, 2024  
11:00am

# GATHER

## CHIMING THE HOUR

## WELCOME — BIENVENIDO

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Jo Hudson

One: Come to glorify God, to rejoice in the One who saves us.

**All: God comes, so we might believe, so we might be blessed.**

One: Our hearts leap for joy, for God is coming to us as a child.

**All: God comes for those who hunger for hope, for those who thirst for grace.**

One: Holy is the One who comes in God's name, who fulfills every promise of God.

**All: God comes to walk with us, with all of us, to bring love to a shattered world.**

## SONG OF PRAISE

### O COME, O COME EMMANUEL

Tune: Veni Emmanuel - 15th- century "Processional"

O come, O Day-spring, come and cheer  
our spirits by your advent here;  
Love stirs within the womb of night,  
and death's own shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel

O come, Desire of Nations, bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind;  
Make envy, strife, and quarrels cease;  
fill the whole world with heaven's  
peace  
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel  
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel

## PRAY

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Let us pray.

**All: Loving God, we confess we are not the people you hope us to be. All too often, we ignore the people You most favor: the marginalized, the oppressed, and the poor. Forgive us, O God. Look with grace upon us, so we might see your love shining on all people. Help us welcome Jesus, our Christ, into our hearts so that we might be the ones of Love for Your realm. Hear us, we pray. Amen.**

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**One:** Hear the Good News. God grants mercy from generation to generation, always loving, always forgiving, always calling us to new life.

**All:** As we open our hearts to Jesus, we are filled with joy that was sung at his Birth, with the love that walked among us, with Your presence, always with us. Thank you O God, for forgiving us and loving us. Amen.

## **ATTEND**

### **SONG OF PREPARATION**

#### **SHINE ON US**

Words and Music by Michael W. Smith and Deborah D. Smith

Lord let the light  
Light of Your love shine on us  
Lord let the light  
Light of Your love shine on us

That all may be saved  
That all may have life  
To find our way in the darkest  
night  
Let Your love shine on us  
Let Your love shine on us

### **\*GOSPEL**

Luke 1.39-56

Victoria Campbell

In those days, Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Redeemer comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the angel of the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Redeemer, for You have looked with favor on the lowly state of Your servant. Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed, for You, the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is Your name; indeed, Your mercy is for those who are in awe of You, from generation to generation. You have shown strength with Your arm; You have

scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. You have brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; You have filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. You have come to the aid of Your child Israel, in remembrance of Your mercy, according to the promise You made to our ancestors, to Abraham, and his descendants forever." And Mary remained with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned to her home.

MESSAGE

*More Than Words: "Hope Filled"*

Rev. Dr. Jo Hudson

## RESPOND

### SONG OF PREPARATION

#### **EVEN SO, CHRIST JESUS, COME**

Words and Music by Steve Bell

Even so Christ Jesus, come  
Oh divine and glorious One  
Though we live as Your body  
here on earth  
Even so, Christ Jesus, come  
Even so, Christ Jesus, com

### OFFERING

Invitation

Offering God our Gifts

The Silence Is Kept

The Lord's Prayer (using "kin-dom" and "sins")

One: Let us pray.

**All: Our God in heaven, holy be Your name. Your kin-dom come. Your will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kin-dom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

We serve communion by intinction – at the ushers' guidance, you are invited to come forward where you will be served a piece of bread. You are invited to then dip the bread in the cup, which contains grape juice, and receive the two elements together. Gluten-free bread is also available to the far right. All are welcome.

## SONG OF RESPONSE

### EVEN SO, CHRIST JESUS, COME

Holy Spirit breath of life  
Light a path through darkest night  
In Your care we confess  
our deepest sigh  
Even so, Sweet Spirit, come  
Even so, Christ Jesus, Come

## HOLY COMMUNION

The Story  
The Blessing  
The Invitation  
The Sharing

## SONG OF COMMUNION

### COME, EMMANUEL

Words and Music by Twila Paris

Come and speak to us	Once mercy found us,
Come and renew us	Still You astound us
Come and live through us Emmanuel	Hold and surround us Emmanuel
Grace to implore us	Living inside us
Ever before us	Faithful to guide us
Come and restore us Emmanuel	Cover and guide us Emmanuel
Come Emmanuel, come Emmanuel	Come Emmanuel, come Emmanuel
Come Emmanuel, come Emmanuel	Come Emmanuel, come Emmanuel

Love that begins us,  
Pardons and wins us  
Come and reign in us Emmanuel  
Come and speak to us,  
Fill and renew us  
Come and live through us Emmanuel  
Come Emmanuel, come Emmanuel  
Come Emmanuel, come Emmanuel  
Emanuel, Emanuel

The Thanks

## DEPART

### COMMUNITY REMINDERS

#### ✦ BLESSING

#### ✦ SONG OF DEPARTING

### COME, O LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

Words and Music by Charles Wesley

Come O long-expected Jesus  
Born to set Your people free  
From our fears and sins release us  
Grant us Your true liberty  
By Your own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone  
By Your all sufficient merit  
Raise to us Your glorious home

#### ✦ SHARING THE PEACE — COMPARTIENDO LA PAZ

One: The hope of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: La Esperanza de Cristo esté con vosotros.

All: **Y tambien contigo.**

#### ✦ SENT

# WORSHIP

## CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Tuesday, December 24, 5:00 pm  
Worship with New Church on Christmas Eve  
Onsite & Online

# NEW CHURCH INFORMATION

## **newchurch Council:**

Victoria Campbell — Co-Convener  
[vicoriazimmerman@mac.com](mailto:vicoriazimmerman@mac.com)

Tim Fortenberry — Co-Convener  
[timwfortenberry@gmail.com](mailto:timwfortenberry@gmail.com)

Rev. Dr. Jo Hudson  
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Jody Martin - Secretary  
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Kelli Vaughn-Hebert - Treasurer  
[Kellanie0704@gmail.com](mailto:Kellanie0704@gmail.com)

## **newchurch Deacons:**

Steven Eskue  
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James Zackey  
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## **newchurch Pastors:**

Rev. Dr. Jo Hudson  
Senior Pastor  
[Rev.Dr.JoHudson@thenewchurch.com](mailto:Rev.Dr.JoHudson@thenewchurch.com)

Pastor Monica Bradley  
Senior Associate for Justice  
[monica.bradley@tcu.edu](mailto:monica.bradley@tcu.edu)

## **newchurch OPEN AND AFFIRMING (ONA) STATEMENT**

We are the **newchurch** — the Chiesa Nuova, United Church of Christ — who gather and are gathered as an intentional, Christian community seeking to follow in the Way of Jesus. We are a community of faith witnessing to God's love and grace for persons of every race, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, ethnicity, marital status, physical or mental ability, political stance and theological perspective. As agents of reconciliation and wholeness, we pledge to stand against all forms of discrimination and to embrace all who are disenfranchised from church and community. Together in our diversity and empowered and guided by the Holy Spirit, we are committed to "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God" (Micah 6:8)

## **Did You Know...**

Chiesa (/ˈkjɛzɑ/) Nuova (/ˈnwo.vo/) is "New Church" in Italian. We include the Italian translation in our name to honor Saint Francis of Assisi, whom we claim as the Patron Saint of **newchurch**.

# EVENTS AT A GLANCE

**12/22**      **Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship**  
11:00 am    Onsite & Online, Fellowship Hall

**12/24**      **Tuesday**  
**5:00 pm**    **CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION & CANDLELIGHT**  
Onsite & Online, Fellowship Hall

**12/29**      **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas — Sunday of Service**  
11:00 am    Online Only Worship  
Mission Outreach to the Unhoused in Downtown Dallas  
email [info@thenewchurch.com](mailto:info@thenewchurch.com) for information & location

