

UM Center Chapel
December 2, 2020
Advent 1

GATHERING

Lighting of the Advent Candle, "Company is coming" Discipleship Ministries 2020
(<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/advent-candle-lighting-liturgy-2020>)

- **Reader One:** If ever there was a year we needed Advent, this is the year. We hardly know how to describe the year we have lived through. We hesitate to reflect on all the mess around us in 2020. All we know is that nothing seems right, nothing seems like it used to be, nothing. We need Advent!
- **Reader Two:** The prophet Isaiah cried out for us, "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down ... To make your name known ... so that nations might tremble at your presence." So tear through the mess, O Lord, and come down to us again. We long to be your people, a people of hope.
- **Reader One:** We light this first candle as a sign of our hope. Hope that you can meet us, even in the mess of our world. Hope that you still see us, though we feel we are lost in the rubble. Let this light be the guide that brings us to Emmanuel once more.
- **Reader Two:** O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

Opening Song: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=utpZAIycWFU>

PROCLAMTATION OF THE WORD

Scripture: Mark 13:24-37
Message: Keep Watchin'

RESPONSE

Reflection:

- What does it mean to "keep watch"? Where do you see the coming Christ emerging?
- How does this look in our lives and in our ministries?

Prayers of the People

Closing Song: People Look East (Boulevard UMC, 11/23/20)
<https://www.facebook.com/BoulevardUMC/videos/192069975756296> (video 34:26-36:43)

Sending

Benediction & Charge