**Worship from Home**

**First Congregational Church of Blue Hill, UCC**

**First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2022**

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude Chimes Choir

Call to Worship

**One:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Many: And also with you.**

**One:** The time is coming when the Lord shall pour his most special blessing on the earth.  
**Many: We want to be ready for that time. What should we do?  
One:** Be vigilant. Keep your hearts, minds, and spirits open to God’s word.  
**Many: Help us, O Lord, to be aware of all of your blessings.  
One:** Come, let us celebrate God’s love for us.  
**Many: Make our hearts ready to receive your Gift of Love, O Lord. AMEN.**

Hymn #110 *“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”* (v. 1)

Advent Candle Lighting The Quinby Family

**One:** In this season of Advent, we remember that Christ is coming to bring us hope. For those of us bound by bitterness and anger

**Many: Christ is coming to bring us hope.**

**One:** For those of us feeling trapped and misunderstood

**Many: Christ is coming to bring us hope.**

**One:** For those of us burdened with ceaseless worry

**Many: Christ is coming to bring us hope.**

**One:** For those of us whose lives feel out of control

**Many: Christ is coming to bring us hope.**

*Candle Lighting*

In this season of Advent, as we look forward to Christmas, we take time to celebrate and to remember. On this, the first Sunday, as we light the first candle, we celebrate hope. Hope for a better world and a better tomorrow. We also remember that we are God’s instruments of hope here on earth and it’s up to us to spread the message of hope.

*We Sing the Refrain (in your insert)*

Unison Prayer

**Most merciful God, we thank you for the hope that shines like a star in the night. With your promise, we can look forward to a better tomorrow. Fill our hearts with the love that hope brings to all humankind during times of darkness. In your name, O Lord, we pray. Amen.**

Children’s Message

Hymn #345 “*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”* (v. 1)

Lesson from the Epistles **Romans 13:8-14**

Lessons from the Gospels **Matthew 24:36-44**

Sermon  *“* *Maranatha*”Pastor Lisa

Hymn #122 *“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”* (vs. 1)

Prayers of the People *(sharing of joys and concerns)*

The Lord’s Prayer

Choral Response

Invitation to Give

Offertory Anthem (#591 NCH) *“Finlandia”* Jean Sibelius

\*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above the heavenly host. Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication (from Moira Laidlaw)

**Gracious and loving God, these gifts we offer are our response to the light which came into the world that first Christmas. Help us in this Advent season to allow that light to shine through us, so that the dark areas of people's lives life can be pierced by Christ's love. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen**

\*Hymn #112 “Keep Awake, Be Always Ready”

Benediction

Postlude *“”*

\*Indicates that those who are able may stand