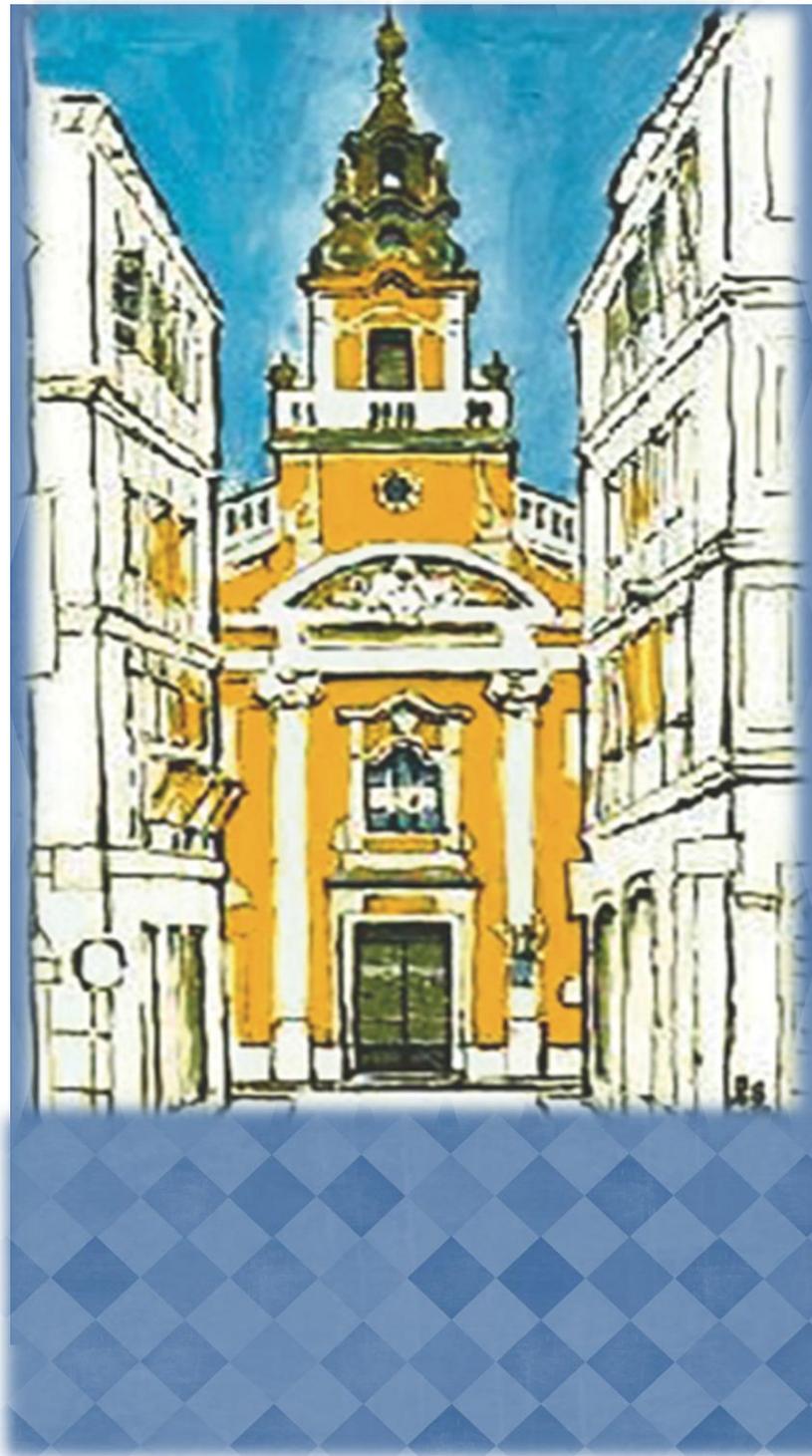




We are a Bible-based, English-speaking, international, interdenominational, ecumenical, friendly and welcoming community.

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

*29 November 2020 – First Sunday of Advent – at 12 Noon
VCC Online Service*



WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Meditation

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Prelude

Tomasz Piętak

Candle Lighting

Prayer

VOICE Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the Sunday in which we recall the hope we have in Christ.

VOICE The prophets of Israel all spoke of the coming of Christ, of how a saviour would be born, a king in the line of David. They spoke of how he would rule the world wisely and bless all nations.

VOICE On Christmas day the Christ of our hope was born. On Good Friday the Christ of our hope died. On Easter day the Christ of our hope rose from the dead. He then ascended into heaven. On the last day, the Christ of our hope will come again to establish his kingdom over all things on earth.

VOICE As followers of Christ, we await his return. We light this candle to remember that as he came to us humbly in the manger at Bethlehem and gave light to the world, so he is coming again in power to deliver his people.

VOICE We light this candle to remind us to be alert and to watch for his return.

Light the First Candle

Kitty McKinsey

Hymn – Advent Candle Lighting

"HOPE IS A STAR" WILL BE SUNG.

Hope is a star that shines in the night
Leading us on till the morning is bright.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
And none shall be afraid.



VOICE **LET US PRAY.** Loving God, we thank you for the hope you give us. Help us prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming. Bless our worship. Help us live holy and righteous lives. We ask it in the name of the one born in Bethlehem. Amen.

Greeting/Announcements

Rev. Dr. Neil Parker

WE HEAR THE WORD

Scripture Readings

Kitty McKinsey

1 Corinthians 1:3-9 (NIV)

3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving

4 I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. **5** For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— **6** God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. **7** Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. **8** He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. **9** God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Responsive Psalm

^[a] [Psalm 80:1-7; 17-19 \(NIV\)](#)

For the director of music. To the tune of “The Lilies of the Covenant.” Of Asaph. A psalm.

- 1 Hear us, Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock.
You who sit enthroned between the cherubim,
shine forth
- 2 before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.
Awaken your might;
come and save us.
- 3 Restore us, O God;
make your face shine on us,
that we may be saved.
- 4 How long, Lord God Almighty,
will your anger smolder
against the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have made them drink tears by the bowlful.
- 6 You have made us an object of derision^[b] to our neighbors,
and our enemies mock us.
- 7 Restore us, God Almighty;
make your face shine on us,
that we may be saved.
- 17 Let your hand rest on the man at your right hand,
the son of man you have raised up for yourself.
- 18 Then we will not turn away from you;
revive us, and we will call on your name.
- 19 Restore us, Lord God Almighty;
make your face shine on us,
that we may be saved.

Footnotes a) [Psalm 80:1](#) In Hebrew texts 80:1-19 is numbered 80:2-20.
b) [Psalm 80:6](#) Probable reading of the original Hebrew text; Masoretic Text *contention*

Sermon

H O P E

Rev. Dr. Neil Parker

WE RESPOND IN THANKS AND PRAYER

• #531 *Thank You Lord*

1. Thank you Lord, thank you Lord, thank you Lord,
I just want to thank you, Lord.
2. Been so good, been so good, been so good,
I just want to thank you Lord.
3. Been my friend, been my friend, been my friend,
I just want to thank you, Lord

Prayers of the People

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

- **The Apostles' Creed**
- **The Words of the Institution**
- **Communion**

Lord's Prayer

Offering

Doxology

• #35 *Gloria Patri*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Announcements / Sharing

WE GO INTO GOD'S WORLD WITH BLESSING

• #33 *How Great Thou Art*

1. O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder
consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee;
how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee;
how great thou art, how great thou art!

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:

4. When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art!

• **Blessing / Commissioning**

• #312 *Amen* *Congregational Amen*

- Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Tomasz Piętak

