

**JASPER UNITED CHURCH**  
**November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**The Inn Housing the Holy**  
**“Making Room Hope”**  
**First Sunday of Advent**  
**Mission Statement**

“Our mission is to worship God and deepen our Christian faith. We strive to seek justice, be an inclusive, caring and accepting community, and to be stewards of God’s world.”

*Worship Leader: Rev. Linda McLaren*

*Musician: Carol Vien*

Don't waste any time dividing the world into good guys and the bad guys.  
Hold them both together in your own soul -- where they are anyway --  
and you will have held together the whole world.

— *Richard Rohr in Hope Against Darkness*

**Prelude**

**The Inn – Housing the Holy**

**Welcome**

**Territorial Acknowledgement**

**Announcements**

**Celebrations and Remembrances**

**Settling Moment:**

**VU 5**

In the quiet of your listening, you are invited to rest your thoughts and prepare your hearts and minds to worship God.

**We Open the Door - “Hope Waits for Us at Advent”**

**Choir**

**Voice One:** Today we offer the Light of Hope to illumine the Door of Welcome. (Advent Candle of Hope is lit )

**Voice Two:** May this light shine in our hearts, in our lives, and in our church.

**Voice One:** May Hope awaken us to possibilities and lead us to greater hospitality.

**All:** *There IS room in this Inn, a House for the Holy.*

**Congregational Hymn:**

**Hope waits for us at Advent**  
**Hope waits for us to trust.**  
**Hope waits for our commitment**  
**to a land that’s kind and just.**  
**In this time of preparation**  
**for the work of co-creation,**  
**for the birthing of a world**  
**that heals the ones in pain.**  
**Hope is born in us again!**

**The Peace**

The Hope of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

As we rise in body or spirit for our opening hymn, I invite you to pass a “wave” of peace to the people around you!

**Opening Hymn: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel***

**VU 1**

**Learning Together:**

**Prayer for Illumination:**

Holy God, help us to give voice to the wonderful news: you, yourself are coming to dwell among us! Quicken our imaginations to find new and creative ways to proclaim Christ’s coming. Amen. (CGP, 87)

**Scripture Readings:**

Jeremiah 33: 14-16 (CEB); Psalm 25: 4-5 (CEB)

Luke 21:25–36

**May God bless to our understanding these readings from the Holy Scriptures.**

**Reflection**

**Hymn: *We Are Marching***

**VU 646**

**Prayers of the People**

**Sing: Make of my heart a stable, a house for the holy,**  
**a warm and sturdy place for hope to live and grow.**

**Prayers**

**Sing: Make of my life a stable, a house for the holy,**  
**a warm and sturdy place for hope to live and grow.**

***Prayers***

**Make of our church a stable, a house for the holy,  
a warm and sturdy place for hope to live and grow.**

***Prayers***

**The Prayer of Jesus**

**Mission and Service**

**Invitation to the Offering**

**Offering Prayer: As we prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth, prepare in us a space for the Holy. Help us to give in expectation of his return. May the gifts of our offerings be used to share this good news in ways we dared not dream and, in your blessing, may our gifts be used for 'outside of the box' responses to the needs of the world.**

**Hymn: *O Little Town of Bethlehem***

**VU 64**

**Benediction**

May God's Door of Welcome

swing open in your heart and in your life.

May Christ's humble first dwelling

remind you of the plenty you already know.

And may the Spirit lead you into

more possibility and hospitality than you can imagine,

making room in The Inn for all.

May it be so for you.

May it be so for us.

May it be so for this church.

Amen.

**Postlude**