

Worship Service ~ *Longing for Hope*

First Sunday of Advent, Year A,

30th November, 2025

Psalm 146 / Hebrews 6:13-20

Prelude

played by church musician Annie Center,

Gathering Together

Welcome

Good morning, it's my pleasure to welcome you to worship with Olympic View Community Church. Please stand with me, if you're able, and hear the Lord call us into worship.

Call to Worship

One: A voice cries:

**All: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God."**

One: As we worship today,

**All: let us prepare to welcome God's dramatic work in our midst,
in our hearts, in our community, and in all of creation.**

One: Let us worship God.

Invocation

Thank you, Lord our God, ruler of the universe, for you have kept us in life, sustained us, and brought us to this holy season.

As we worship, would you create in us a hope that is fitting for this occasion, an anticipation that is ready to rejoice, and a faith that is eager to receive Christ. Amen.

Opening Hymn

Hark the Herald Angels Sing ~ 201

Lighting the Advent Candle

Advent Reading ~ Jeremiah 33:14-16

14 “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. **15** In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. **16** In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’

Advent Candle (Hope)

Reader: *[Light Candle] Prepare the way of the Lord. We light this candle in hope, the hope of our coming Savior, Jesus.*

All: Prepare, then, the way of the Lord

Engaging with God Together

Scripture Reading ~ Psalm 146

1 Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

2 I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

3 Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

4 When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

5 Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

6 who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;

7 who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

8 the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

9 The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

10 The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

Let's greet one another with the peace of Christ as we pass the peace.

Pass the Peace

Sharing Announcements and Prayer Requests

In a moment we are going to pray together, but before we do, does anyone have any announcements to share about anything in the life of the church coming up?

Does anyone have any joys or concerns to share?

Pastoral Prayer (responsive)

Prayer by pastor

Hymn

Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming ~ 211

Hearing the Word Together

Sermon Passage ~ Hebrews 6:13-20

13 For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, 14 saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." 15 And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise. 16 For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. 17 So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, 18 so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. 19 We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, 20 where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

Sermon ~ *Longing for Hope*
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Preacher: Jonny Finlayson

Responding to the Word Together

Call to Serve

A Time for Reflection Played by church musician Annie Center,

Hymn **Oh Little Town of Bethlehem ~ 191**

Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the
Holy Spirit be with you all.

Short prayer by pastor

Postlude played by church musician Annie Center,

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