

Focus Statement: *"How will we know . . . how long?"*

In our Scriptures, we hear the stories of those who have been waiting, waiting, waiting to hear from God, who have felt the silence of God as they long for restoration, for vindication, for hope. We, too, have been those who wait. We cry out with our spiritual ancestors, "How long, O Lord?" The answer is not forthcoming, yet we know: God is with us in the waiting."

Prelude

Opening Songs *Hamba Nathi* VT 23
 Poor of the Earth VT 213

Welcome

Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: O God, tear open the heavens and come down so that the mountains would quake at your presence!

Left: No one has heard,

Right: no ear has perceived,

People: **no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for you.**

Leader: **No one knows when the time will come.**

People: How long must we wait?

(pause)

All: *Together we wait.*

Singing *We Come* VT 225
 Beauty for Brokenness VT 712

Offering

Children's Time *Let the Children Come to Me* VT 512

Drama

Scripture Isaiah 64:1-9
 Mark 13:24-37

Message Watching, Waiting, Anticipating

Advent Candle Lighting & Response Time

Worship Leader: Together we wait.

Congregation: *How long must we wait?*

Worship Leader: No one knows when the time will come.

Congregational Prayer

Sending Song *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* VT 218

Benediction

Worship Leader: Together we wait.

Congregation: *How long must we wait?*

Worship Leader: No one knows when the time will come.

So, go! Keep alert, strengthened by God's faithfulness to you.

Participants:

Worship Leader

Music Leader

Prelude and Offertory

Scripture Reading

Drama

Children's Time

Message

Candle Lighter

Congregational Prayer

Worship Tech

Ushers

Dan Steiner

Tom Good

Steph Swartzendruber Snyder

Barb Eiler

Annetta Good

John C. Miller

Nathan Pauls

Sharon Miller

Naomi Yoder

Grace Thomas

Merle Hostetler

Hannah Bachman

Seth Unruh

Tim Yoder

Annetta Good

Matt Overman

Cindy Steiner



"...How Long?"

First Sunday of Advent

East Goshen Mennonite Church

December 3, 2023

10:30 a.m.