THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT <u>HOPE</u>

- Leader: Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the Sunday of Hope.
- All: Our Hope is in God and in His son, Jesus Christ. He is the one appointed by God to be judge of all things. He is the one through whom God has promised to save and redeem His people.

The Lighting of the Candle

We light this candle today to remind us that He is our Hope and the Hope of the world. We thank God for the promises He has made to us and for the light He has brought into the world.

Light the First Candle.

Leader: Let us pray

All: O God of Hope, Emmanuel, God with us – we pray you send your light into our hearts at this time. Help us to be ready for the day and the hour of Christ's final appearing. Live in us and help us to live in you. By the power of the Holy Spirit, transform us so that our worship, our celebration, our time of preparation may be pleasing unto You – both now – and forevermore. Amen.

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