



*I Believe  
in Hope Even When...*

**“We Believe in Hope”**

Isaiah 40:1-11, Mark 1:1-15

November 29, 2020

**THORNDALE  
United Methodist Church**

3503 Lincoln Highway, Thorndale, PA 19372

**610-384-2433**

[www.thorndaleumc.org](http://www.thorndaleumc.org)

***All Are Welcome!***

# WELCOME/INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

## THRESHOLD

### INTRODUCTION OF THEME SONG

*I Believe*

Dave Kurtz

### +OPENING PRAYER AND LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Leader: Holy One, we thank you for the glimpses we catch  
of your gift of untiring hope.  
Even in the midst of fear, of challenge, of struggle—  
even when our view is obscured by clouds of doubt,  
ignite the flame of hope within us...

**People: ...that we might glow with its brilliance from the inside out.**

*Lighting of the Advent Candle*

**All: God of hope, help us face this depth of unknowing  
and embrace it as a womb of rebirth.**

### +GREETING

### PRAISE

*All My Hope is in Jesus  
Home*

Dave Kurtz

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Renay Oberholtzer

### TIME OF PRAISE & PRAYER followed by OUR LITANY OF BELIEF

### SCRIPTURE

**ISAIAH 40:1-11**

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid,  
that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our  
God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;  
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength,  
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear;  
say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him;  
his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Dave Kurtz

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Almighty God, as John the Baptist identified the arrival of the Messiah, this Advent season, that role falls on us. As we bring our tithes and offerings to you, we pray that our giving continues to point to the Christ who comes in love and compassion, with more concern for those who don't have enough and little concern that those who have so much will get more. May our giving in this season reflect our hope for a new kind of kingdom to reign in our world. We pray this in the name of the Messiah, Jesus our Savior. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

**MARK 1:1-15**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,

who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

MESSAGE

*“We Believe in Hope”*

Pastor Shauna

HYMN

*I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*

Dave Kurtz

+BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Rejoice, the Lord is King*

Dave Kurtz

**SERVING TODAY IN WORSHIP**

PASTOR

Rev. Shauna K. Ridge

WORSHIP TEAM SHEPHERDS:

MUSIC

Dave Kurtz

DOOR GREETER

Kris Wade

LITURGIST

Renay Oberholtzer

USHER 1

Wayne Barrows

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Renay Oberholtzer

USHER 2

Pete Scotti

TECH TEAM

Josh Dwyer

TEMP TAKER

Rosemary Moore

Terry Moore

ATTENDANCE

Irene Farra

Jamie Ridge

FLOATER

Hannah Smith

*Flowers are given to the glory of God by Dave Davis, in honor of Sue’s birthday.*