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November 30, 2014

Advent 1

(Portions of the service that are in **BOLD** are to be said by all.  
All points marked \* those who are able are invited to stand.)

## Approach

Gathering Carol – Hymn VU #62 – *“Once in Royal David’s City”*

Advent Adventure Begins

Response – (VU #647)

**Travel on, travel on, there’s a spirit that is flowing,  
A spirit that is flowing night and day.  
Travel on, travel on, with the spirit that is flowing,  
The spirit will be with us all the way.  
Travel on, travel on, with the spirit that is flowing,  
The spirit will be with us all the way.**

(Children leave for Bible Adventures)

Prayer of Approach and Confession

**God of hope and promise, the season of Advent has begun. The decorations are up and it seems every corner of our world is filled with the sound of carols. You remind us that beyond the tinsel and candy there is so much more. You give us spiritual gifts that surprise and sustain us. The gifts of our community inspire us and transform others with justice and compassion. You set us out on a spiritual adventure and tell us simply to expect the unexpected.**

**Forgive us for demanding clarity and certainty. We are people of schedules and commitments and you ask us to focus simply on you. Without signs or a map you call us to be ready to go at a moment’s notice. We grumble and we presume to know better than you. This is our dilemma. Help us to be faithful and open to your revealing as this season of the Messiah begins. AMEN**

Assurance of Pardon

\* Hymn – VU #1 – *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*

## The Word

📖 Scripture Readings – 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9  
Psalm 80: 1-3  
Mark 13: 24-26, 32-37

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

\* Hymn VU #2 – *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”*

Meditation – *“Let the adventure begin!”*

Anthem – *“My Lord, He is a Comin’ Soon”*

## The Response

Announcements / Minute Person – Patrick Woodbeck

\* Offering / Response (tune VU #84)

**O Light of Nations, fill the earth;  
Our faith and hope and love renew.  
Come, lead the peoples to your peace,  
As stars once led the way to you.**

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

\* Advent Hymn (tune VU #93 - see insert)

Candle Lighting

\* Benediction / Response

**Hope is a candle on our journey.  
Hope is the travel and the end.  
All through the frosty fields of winter,  
This dancing flame of Hope we’ll tend.  
For we are a people of a Story,  
Of stars that sing and Love that cries.  
And though these nights are getting longer.  
The path is lit before our eyes.  
For hope...**

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Rev. Dr. Sharon Wilson, Minister  
Luci Toews, Church Administrator  
Myrna Hagues, Organist  
Douglas Gauthier & Gloria Waldron, Nursery Care Givers  
Sue Turley, Liturgist

Patrick Woodbeck, Associate Minister  
Laura Steidl, Music Director  
Gina Grant, Custodian

Ushers: Glenn & Kim Wark  
Greeters: Ron & Susan Kroeker