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November 29, 2015

1st Sunday of Advent

(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 Carols VU #35 – "Good Christian Friends Rejoice" VU #36 – "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Call to Worship

One: The season of Advent challenges us,

All: We are challenge to see God's vision of what is yet to be.

One: We are challenged to hear God's voice calling anew,

All: We are challenged to see the light of God in our world.

One: Peace be upon all who enter this house.

All: Let us celebrate the richness and diversity of life as we

worship together.

* Hymn VU #1 – "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (vs 1,3,4,5)

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Light of the World, we come to You in this season of Advent, a season of darkness as we wait for the Light to return. In the midst of the busy-ness of the season, of the Christmas preparations and celebrations, call us to pause. Call us to look around, and to see You at work in our world. Guide us to find new ways of living into Your love and grace. Ancient and Holy One, Creator of all time and all places, as we come to You we know that we can be impatient and demanding. We want more and more, we want safety and security, we want comfort and ease. Forgive us for wanting things instead of desiring Your way. Forgive us for putting our own comforts above the needs of others. Forgive us for being short-sighted and focusing only on the temporary. instead of looking to the eternal. Call us away from the ways of the world, and call us to seek Your ways of love, justice and peace. In the name of Jesus the Christ, who calls us to live now, to live eternally, to live differently, we pray. AMEN

Assurance of Pardon

Children's Time / The Lord's Prayer

The Word

Scripture Readings – Jeremiah 33: 14-16 Luke 21: 25-36

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

* Hymn VU #30- "Hail to God's Own Anointed"

Meditation – "Apocalypse or promise? Are they really different?"

(a quiet time for your personal reflection and prayer)

Anthem – "Listen!"

The Response

Announcements

* Offering / Response

My soul is filled with joy as I sing to God my saviour:

You have looked upon your servant,

You have visited your people.

And holy is your name through all generations.

Everlasting is your mercy to the people you have chosen.

And holy is your name.

Pastoral Prayer

* Hymn VU #62 – "Once in Royal David's City"

Benediction / Response

A prophet's words shared long ago Remind us that God guides each day; Amid new journeys we shall take We'll find our path, locate God's way That leads us to a treasured birth: God's promised gift of such great worth.

Rev. Dr. Sharon Wilson, Minister Luci Toews, Church Administrator Myrna Hagues, Organist Sarah Closen, Liturgist

Patrick Woodbeck, Associate Minister Laura Steidl, Music Director Jessica Steidl & Alex Czehryn, Joyful Noise Gina Grant, Custodian

Douglas Gauthier & Gloria Waldron, Nursery Care Givers