



In the beginning was the

WORD,

and the Word was with God.

John 1:1

Now is a good time to turn off our cell phones and listen for God's call.

Please sign the friendship pad at the end of the pew and pass it down for others to sign.

November 29, 2009

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FOR MEDITATION

The season of Advent heightens our awareness that God has always been active in history and that God is still active in our lives and our world. While we wait for God's plan to be fulfilled, we are called to be instruments of peace, justice, and compassion. We are called to be participants in God's mission of redemption of the world.

PRELUDE

Pat Bofird

SONGS OF PRAISE

SEEKING GOD'S PRESENCE

Elder Don Hellwig

One: The days are short, and darkness comes early to our lives.

All: Lord, hear our prayers through the darkness.

One: Come, seek the Lord. Place your hope in God's mercy and love.

All: Lord, we seek your presence among us.

One: Look closely! God is making us ready.

All: Brighten our spirits this day, and help us to receive your Good News. Amen.

INTROIT

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Don Hellwig

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Lord will fulfill all the promises given to God's people.

All: Praise be to God.

One: The days are coming when all shall be revealed.

All: Thanks be to God.

One: The signs of God's Good News are all around us.

All: The darkness has not overshadowed them.

One: God is bringing a new light for all generations.

All: Open our eyes, Lord, to see your promises fulfilled. Amen.

INVOCATION (IN UNISON)

**Advent God, you call us to get ready,
to make our world ready for you once more.**

**You call us together to learn how to trust each other,
how to love each other, how to make peace with each other.**

**You call us from our homes, our work and our schools,
and so we come together to share our journey into your new world.**

Amen.

*HYMN #2

"Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

* Please stand if you are able

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Let us offer our confessions to God.

All: **Lord, it is so easy for us to let the darkness of anger, frustration, and fear overshadow our lives. We can't seem to escape it.**

We act out our fear and anger in ways which hurt us and others.

Our fear washes away our hope and contradicts our helpfulness.

Savior, have mercy on us.

One: Forgive us for our fears and our stubbornness.

All: **Rescue us from our mistakes; deliver us from our sins; and bring us to live in your light.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION IN SONG, (SUNG BY ALL) (#2152)

Change my heart, Oh God, make it ever true; Change my heart, Oh God, may I be like you.

You are the potter, I am the clay; mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart, Oh God, make it ever true; Change my heart, Oh God, may I be like you.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: This is the good news; you will be swept away in the waters of mercy, carrying you home to God's heart.

All: **Salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.**

Healing and hope are ours in this Advent season of watching and waiting.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

"ADVENT SONG" #2090 *In Sing the Faith*, (VERSE 1)

Light the Advent Candle, one: now the waiting has begun

We have started on our way, time to think of Christmas Day

Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;

candle, candle burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

OPENING PRAYER:

As Advent begins, Lord, open our eyes, our hearts, our spirits to behold and receive your gracious love for us. Amen.

· Today we light one candle - the Candle called HOPE, as a reminder that God's promises are true.

We place our hope in God. · We place our lives in God's care.

· Come, all is ready. Let the light of this one candle, called HOPE, bring brightness to our spirits.

[The first Advent Candle is lit.]

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (ALL SING)

Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord; open the eyes of my heart.

I want to see you; I want to see you. (2x)

READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Isaiah 42:5-9

Page 670

GOSPEL READINGS

Luke 21:25-28

Page 85

John 1:1-5

Page 91

ANTHEM

"A Christmas Medley"

Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S CHAT

Sherise Parker-Alofs

*HYMN #9 "O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL"

PRAISE REPORTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer" (#2200)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

... Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OUR GIFTS OF THANKSGIVING

OFFERTORY

"Go Light Up The World"

*"Give Thanks" (#2036 in Sing the Faith)

*Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.
And now, let the weak say, "I am strong."
Let the poor say, "I am rich"
because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN #449 "MY LORD! WHAT A MORNING"

*SENDING AND BENEDICTION

One: God is calling us up to the mountain, out to the city street.

All: God is calling. Come, let us go together.

One: God is calling us out to offices and stores and classrooms.

All: God is calling. Come, let us go together.

One: God is calling us out of the familiar into the surprising.

All: God is calling. Come, let us go together.

One: God is calling us out of dreams into deeds.

All: God is calling. Come, let us go. We have Advent work to do.

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (ALL SING)

*Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King! [3x]
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King!*

POSTLUDE

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Calvary Presbyterian Church is a welcoming people of faith and hope in Christ Jesus, inspired by God's word and led by the Holy Spirit. We serve God, each other, our community, and the world, through worship, study, teaching, fellowship and outreach; demonstrating God's love, justice, compassion and grace.