



# ORDER FOR WORSHIP

*1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent*

*November 29, 2020*

*Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.*

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### PRELUDE

*"O Come, Emmanuel"*

*arranged by Carol Tornquist*

### WELCOME

### PRAYER

### LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

Gracious God, we honour your name. Today we begin our Advent journey to the manger. As we gather in darkness, we light the first candle on this wreath of anticipation. Let us take notice. Give us peace and grace as we prepare to welcome Jesus with joy. Amen.

### SONG

*"Christ Be Our Light" (vs. 1)*

**ELW 715**



## Christ, Be Our Light

1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.

*Refrain*  
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the  
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your  
church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957  
Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell  
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## BUILDING OF THE CRECHE

Each week in Advent we will add to the Creche as we prepare for the arrival of Jesus. The story, "Who is Coming to our House?" by Joseph Slate, will be read as we prepare for the arrival in the stable and in our hearts of someone special.

## WORD

*God speaks to  
us in  
scripture,  
preaching,  
and song*

## GOSPEL

Mark 13: 24 - 37

*Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>24</sup>In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from



heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. <sup>26</sup>Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. <sup>28</sup>From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>32</sup>But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

## REFLECTION

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*"Awake, Awake and Greet the New Morn"*

**ELW 242**



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for  
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so  
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.

*Continued on next page...*



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and  
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and  
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.  
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
 Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen  
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## THANKSGIVING

*In everything  
 Give  
 Thanks.  
 1 Thessalonians  
 5:18*

**PRAYERS of the PEOPLE**

**SHARING of the PEACE**

**OFFERING**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

## SENDING

**BLESSING**

**DISMISSAL**

**POSTLUDE**

*God blesses  
 us and sends  
 us in mission  
 to the world.*

*"Rejoice, Rejoice Believers"*

**ELW 244**



## ST. PHILIP'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

### SERVING TODAY

Marcia Powers-Dunlop	Presider
Chris Ritcey-Conrad	Music Director
Dave Pascoe	Videographer
Gary Wuschnakowski	Story reader
Kathy Drager	Reader
No Fixed Address	Hymn of the Day
Jenny Soupionis	Prayers of the People
	The Lord's Prayer

#### In our Prayers

The Binhammer and Savage families, Rodney Erlandson, Melody Hogeveen, Mary Hughes, Al Jacksteit, Mark Kieswetter, Fran Moore, Marion Morningstar, Pat Penney, Julie Potocny, Lesley Powell, Sydney Ross, Helen Scollnik, and Elga Smidt.

#### Ways to be involved

While we can't be in the building, there are still ways to stay involved and in community with others. Here are a few:

- Send us a picture of your Advent Wreath/Candles: [stphilonline@gmail.com](mailto:stphilonline@gmail.com) or text it to Pastor Tuula.
- Tuesday Bible Study via Zoom @ 7:00 pm
- Participate in the Virtual Worship: play an instrument or sing, read the Gospel, provide a Children's Message, lead the prayers, or tell a Faith Story. Please contact the office.
- Join in the Virtual Coffee Hour @ 11:00 am on Sunday mornings.

#### Drive-In Carol Sing and Tree Lighting

Register now for our Drive-In Carol Sing and Tree Lighting, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 4pm in the church parking lot. Following all safety COVID protocols, you listen to the live carols on your FM radio and sing along in your car! Space is limited, so registration is required. Reserve your spot here:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/drive-in-carol-sing-tickets-130627206491>. Questions? Contact us at [stphilipslutheran@gmail.com](mailto:stphilipslutheran@gmail.com) (not the usual office email).

#### Pass the Offering Plate Please

Thanks for giving your offering regularly. Even while our doors are closed, our hearts and hands are open and busy. Our ministries need your support. Details for how to give are on [stphilipstoronto.com/donate-now/](http://stphilipstoronto.com/donate-now/).