



November 28, 2021

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM ADVENT?

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God who strengthens us to be faithful
always radiating joy and hope into our lives.
Our hope rests in you alone O God.

SONG

Way Maker

<https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/593047589/e30344722d>

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE:

PERSON 1: As we celebrate the beginning of the season of Advent we join with Christians around the world to light the candle of hope.

PERSON 2: We wait with hope for God's love to be revealed.

PERSON 1: As we wait in the clear light of summer, we hear anew that the world will be pierced with an even greater light.

PERSON 2: We wait with hope for the Light of the World to be revealed.
We light this candle as a symbol of our hope.

A purple candle is lit.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

How good are we at watching for signs of God's presence in the world in our lives, our homes? Advent God, forgive us when we pay more attention to satisfying our own needs, than seeking you and your will for our lives - for being more interested in possessing the material things of life, rather than your spiritual gifts. Turn our lives around so that we are looking in the right direction - towards you. Only then can we hope to recognise the signs of your presence in the world. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

ASSURANCE

Hear the good news: In Jesus Christ we have been enriched in every way -in everything we say and in everything we know - in addition, through God's grace, we do not lack any spiritual gift as we wait with anticipation for Jesus to be revealed. He is the one will keep us strong to the end, so that we shall be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God.



PRAYERS OF THANSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

We have been enriched, O God, in every way through the love which was so beautifully and clearly revealed by Jesus. We give thanks to you for initiating this act of love by entering our human history in the way we all enter it - as a baby born of woman's flesh.

We draw our breath in wonder at such a normal yet such a surprising act.

As we wait once more for this wonder-full event to take place, help us never to lose that sense of wonder and mystery which accompanies birth. We pray for those who have lost any sense of wonder because of the stress of just living from day to day: those who are worn out from the effort of making ends meet - from feeding and clothing and keeping alive themselves and their families.

(silent reflection)

We pray for families where relationships have broken down and where children feel unloved and unwelcome;

where family members are forced out of their homes because of violence and abuse.

(silent reflection)

We pray for all people who are made to feel unwelcome because of their race; their colour; their religion.

We pray for attitudes which truly reflect Jesus' commandment to love one another.

(silent reflection)

We pray for people for whom this Advent season points to a heightened sense of failure rather than any promise of fulfilment; for people who identify this season with lost dreams; for people who know only loneliness and recycled memories....

SONG

Speak, Your church is Listening

<https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/587009758/f941d0230b>

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

READINGS

REFLECTION

What can we learn from Advent?

SILENCE

Now let silence gently enfold us...

May the silence we now share quieten us, touch our need, refresh our courage, and enlarge our wonder.

SONG

Who you are to me

<https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/583267818/0b4a5428f7>



BLESSING

Live your lives this week blessed by the knowledge
that you are shaped by the hand of God,
enriched by the grace of Jesus Christ
kept alert by the power of the Holy Spirit