

WESLEY UNITING CHURCH, FORREST, ACT
Advent-1 "Hope 1": Sunday 1st December: 9am



[First Congregational UCC](#)

Greeting: Greetings to all, on this first day of Summer!
May the peace of the Holy One, Holy Three be with you all.
And also with you.

Acknowledgement of Country:

*Let us acknowledge the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples,
The first inhabitants of this place,
Part of God's good creation.
We honour them for their custodianship of the land
On which we gather today.*

*You set humanity at the heart of your creation, O God,
Charging us with your stewardship of all you have made.
We give thanks for those who have heeded your call.*

Safe Place Statement

*The Uniting Church in Australia believes that all people are made in the image
of God,
and so we accept every individual regardless of race, age, creed, sexuality and
gender.*

Let's light the Community Candle from the Christ Candle

*Remembering all those live-streaming with us today, and our extended
communities!*

Welcome and News

Call to Worship

Our Call to Worship today comes direct from 1 Thessalonians 3:9–13:
How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Lighting of the candle on the Advent Wreath

while the candle is lit, we sing:

Hope Waits for Us at Advent

Amanda Udis-Kessler © 2020

Hope waits for us at advent, hope waits for us to trust
Hope waits for our commitment to a land that's kind and just.
In this time of preparation, for the work of co-creation,
For the birthing of a world that heals the ones in pain,
Hope is born in us again.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Confession ...

The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let's share a greeting of peace ...

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

All-Age Story: (Bruce)

Children's Song Get Ready

Gerry Holmes © 1996

Chorus:

*Get ready (get ready),
get ready (get ready),
Jesus is coming soon! Oh yes!
Get ready (get ready),
get ready (get ready),
Jesus is really true! Oh yes!*

1. Are the people ready
to sing and dance and laugh?
This is God's Adventure,
and it's coming fast.
Ready, set, go!
Chorus

OT Reading: Psalm 25: 1-10 (Page 436 in the pew Bible)

Gospel Reading: Luke 21:25-36 (Page 856 in the pew Bible)

In this is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Preaching: Rev. Bruce: "Advent 1, Hope 1"

Offering

Offering Prayer

Prayers of the People ...

THE SACRAMENT (Rev. Geoff)

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you!

And also with you

Let us lift up our hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Thanks and praise, glory and honour are rightly yours

Our Lord and God,

For you alone are worthy.

In time beyond our dreaming,

You brought forth light out of darkness,

And in the love of Christ your Son,

You set women and men at the heart of your creation.

And so we praise you,

with the faithful of every time and place,

joining with the choirs of angels and the whole creation

in the eternal hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth

are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest

Through him,
in him
and because of him,
We affirm the Church's faith

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

Institution

Let's join in offering the Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against
us.**

**Save us in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Christ is the bread of joy
Who shares food with sinners.

Christ is the cup of life,
Who revives the faint-hearted

Let us receive what we are;
Let us become what we receive.

Lamb of God

Jesus, Wisdom of God,

have mercy on us

Jesus, Word made flesh,

have mercy on us

Jesus, Liberator of creation

grant us peace.

Distribution

By intinction, coming to the front.

Song during Distribution O Come, All You Unfaithful

Lisa Clow and Bob Kauflin © 2020 Sovereign Grace Praise/BMI

1. O come, all you unfaithful, come, weak and unstable.

Come, know you are not alone.

O come, barren and waiting ones, weary of praying.

Come, see what your God has done.

Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born for you.

2. O come, bitter and broken, come, with fears unspoken.

Come, taste of His perfect love.

O come, guilty and hiding ones, there is no need to run.

See what your God has done.

Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born for you.

He's the lamb who given, slain for our pardon,

His promise is peace for those who believe.

He's the lamb who given, slain for our pardon,

His promise is peace for those who believe.

3. So come, though you have nothing, come, he is the offering.

Come, see what our God has done.

Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born for you.

Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born for you.

Prayer after Communion

Blessed be God who calls us together

Praise to God who makes us one people

Blessed be God who has forgiven our sin

Praise to God who gives us hope and freedom

Blessed be God whose word is proclaimed

Praise to God who is revealed as lover

Blessed be God who alone has called us

We offer all that we are and all we shall become.

SENDING OUT

Sending Song O Come O Come Emmanuel TiS 265

15th-Cent. plainsong melody, harm. John Arnold (1887-1956), 18th-Cent. latin words, trans. John Neale (1818-66)

Blessing

The blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be upon you and remain with you always.
May we live and serve this week in remembrance of Christ's love.
Our service has ended.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
In the name of Christ.

Amen.

... and morning tea/coffee – our fellowship is also part of our worship!



Worship Team:

Preacher: Rev Dr Bruce Stevens | **Liturgist:** Robert James

Music Co-ordinator: Jade McFaul

Musicians and Wesley Music Scholars: Chloe Law (cello),
Pippa Newman (viola), and Zoey Haar (guitar), Caitlin Launt (vocals)

Communion Elder: Tarlie Alcock | **Readers:** Grace & Hyuk Ryu

Video: Nancy Opdyke | **Sound:** Paul Chen

Duty Elder: Hyuk Ryu | **Stewards:** Kerri & Robert Henderson

Morning Tea: Lorraine Billingham & Susan Akhurst | **Flowers:** Nancy Gibson

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