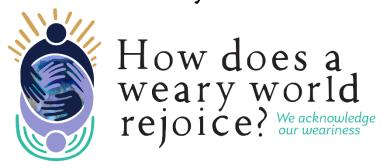


## First Sunday of Advent



Words of Welcome Rev. Laura Ann Phillips

THE GATHERING – We Enter into God's Presence

Sharing Christ's Peace Rev. Laura Ann Phillips

Gathering in the Light

Prelude to Worship "In the Bleak Midwinter" arr. Randall Hartsell Julie Dean, piano

\*Invitation to Worship

Rev. Chuck Pickrel

one: In God's house, we can be joyful.

all: We can be grateful. We can be hopeful.

one: In God's house, we can be weary.

all: We can be anxious. We can be grieving.

one: In God's house, we can be honest —

all: inspired or tired, delighted or doubtful,

one: connected or curious, and everything in between.

all: Let us worship our loving God.

one: This is God's house.

all: You are welcome exactly as you are.

\*Opening Hymn "All Earth Is Waiting" Chalice Hymnal #139

Invocation Rev. Chuck Pickrel

Advent Candle Lighting

one: How does a weary world hope?

all: By telling stories of hope, by lighting candles in the night, and planting seeds in the winter that will bloom in the spring.

one: By praying for children as they grow, and picking up trash on the sidewalk.

all: By insisting that small acts can make a difference.

one: There are a million ways to practice hope.

So today we light the candle of hope as a reminder and a charge.

all: With God's help, let us bring hope into a weary world. Amen.

## THE WORD - We Receive God's Word

Prayer of Illumination "Be Still" Rev. Laura Ann Phillips

Worship & Wonder Scripture "Get Ready for a New Friend" Rev. Chuck Pickrel

a story based on portions of Luke 1 and Luke 3

from the Lectionary Story Bible - Year C, by Ralph Milton and Margaret Kyle

told in the Children Worship & Wonder room

Scripture Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (New Revised Standard Version) Terri Bookless

Scripture Luke 1:1-23 (Common English Bible) Terri Bookless

Sermon "We Rejoice When We Acknowledge Our Weariness" Rev. Laura Ann Phillips

Special Music "Waiting for You" by The Many video

THE RESPONSE – We Respond in Worship

Prayers of the People Rev. Laura Ann Phillips

Our Lord's Prayer

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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Response in Song "Weary World Rejoice" by Anna Strickland

Invitation to Stewardship

If you would like to support the ministries of Overland Park Christian Church and all the ways we are "being church" even now, you can visit our website, www.opccdoc.org to give online, or you may mail your check to our building at 7600 West 75th Street, Overland Park, KS 66204.

Nancy Phipps

\*Doxology "What Child Is This?" Advent Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to Communion Rev. Laura Ann Phillips

Communion Prayer

Words of Institution Rev. Laura Ann Phillips

Communion Response "We Come Now to the Table"

**SENDING FORTH** – We Go Out into the World

Invitation to Discipleship Nancy Phipps

\*Closing Hymn "May You Run and Not Be Weary" Chalice Praise #181

\*Blessing and Benediction Rev. Laura Ann Phillips

Postlude "The Holly and the Ivy" with "O Christmas Tree" arr. Dennis Alexander Julie Dean, piano

## Acknowledgements and permissions:

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