



## First Sunday of Advent



How does a  
weary world  
rejoice? *We acknowledge  
our weariness*

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.***

"When God Is a Child"

Chalice Hymnal #132; v 1

## 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" a story based on portions of Luke 1 and Luke 3 from the Lectionary Story Bible – Year C, by Ralph Milton and Margaret Kyle <i>told in the Children Worship &amp; Wonder room</i>	Rev. Chuck Pickrel
Scripture	Psalms 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		Nancy Phipps
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*Doxology	"What Child Is This?" Advent Doxology
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Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to Communion	Rev. Laura Ann Phillips
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Communion Prayer

Words of Institution	Rev. Laura Ann Phillips
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Communion Response	"We Come Now to the Table"
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## 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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*Portions of our liturgy adapted from liturgy written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed  
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