

New St. James Presbyterian Church

The Presbyterian Church in Canada

“Following Christ, Worshipping God, Serving Others”

Sunday, November 29, 2020 – 10:30 am



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Leading in Worship Today

Minister: The Rev. Dr. David Clark

Director of Music: Torin W. Chiles

Reader: Nawton Chiles

Advent Candle and Announcements: Steve Harris

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude

Welcome and Silent Reflection

- * **Call to Worship in Unison** Isaiah 52:8 and Luke 21:28
Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.
Stand up and raise your heads,
because your redemption is drawing near.

- * **Opening Hymn** *Lo! Christ comes with clouds* (HELMSLEY) 120

Prayers of Adoration and Confession

Words of Assurance

We Hear the Word of God

- * **Children's Hymn** *Hope is a star* (MOON BEAMS) 119

Word to the Children

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Hope PWS&D Liturgy (see insert)

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 64:1-9 p. 694 in O.T.

Psalm in Unison

 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth
before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us!
Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?
You have fed them with the bread of tears,
and given them tears to drink in full measure.
You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.
Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one whom you made strong for yourself.
Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.
Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

- * **Gloria Patri**
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Epistle Lesson I Corinthians 1:3-9 **p. 166 in N.T.**
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon “As You Wait for the Revealing” The Rev. Dr. David Clark

We Respond in Faith and Service

- * **Hymn** *Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding* (MERTON) **116**

Offering and Offertory

- * **Doxology for Advent** (WINCHESTER OLD) **138, verse 6**
“All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven to earth
begin, and never cease!”

Prayer of Dedication

Announcements

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession, and the Lord’s Prayer

- * **Hymn** *Hail to the Lord’s Anointed* (ST. THEODULPH) **115**

- * **Commission and Benediction**

Postlude



- * **Please stand, if able.**

First Sunday in Advent Hope



Written by the Rev. Kristine O'Brien
(Director of Crieff Hills)

L: The season of Advent begins, and we celebrate the hope we find in the good news of the Gospel.

P: Through the birth
of a tiny and helpless child,
God comes to save the world.

L: While we watch and wait for Jesus,
we join God's mission by bringing grace and mercy
to those who need it most.

P: We engage the poor and the poor in spirit,
letting Christ's light shine through us.

L: We speak words of comfort and love
to a world in need of hope and healing
as we share our stories of God's transforming Spirit.

P: Together, we are a sign of God's hope for the world.

(The candle is lit)

L: Let us pray:

P: God of surprising grace,
when we least expect it
you bring fresh new life;
and where we feel that all is lost,
you bring redemption.
Give us courage as we share
all you have done,
all you are doing,
and all you will accomplish
through Jesus Christ. Amen.



 **Presbyterian
World Service
& Development**

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There is no question how important sexual reproductive health awareness is to help create healthy communities.

In Malawi, topics such as sexually transmitted diseases and other reproductive health questions are often considered taboo.

Thokozani, Peter and Mafuno are peer educators who are challenging the stigma surrounding reproductive health by teaching youth about family planning, preventing teenage pregnancy, HIV testing and accessing contraceptives.

Thokozani, Peter and Mafuno have begun see the impact of their work.

"The participants want to start engaging in better and healthier behaviour," Peter reports. "They are now getting tested and treated for sexually transmitted diseases."

The three educators also realize their roles are much bigger than just teaching, "we are role models to these people," Mafuno shares proudly.

This Advent season help us support community volunteers as they educate and empower young people on important health issues.

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