

*Kitchissippi United Church
December 22nd, 2019
Advent IV: Hope
Lessons and Carols*

**Indicates please stand in body or spirit
Congregational responses in **BOLD** type.*

WE GATHER TOGETHER

CAROL SING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING

We light the candle of hope,
And we are called to consider how this season brings hope.
Renewed hope in love of God, love of neighbour and hope for the world.
As we light the candle of hope, let us renew our hope in Jesus the light.
(Candles are lit.)

SUNG RESPONSE: *Prepare the way of the Lord* **VU 10**
Prepare the way of the Lord! Prepare the way of the Lord!
Make a straight path for him, make a straight path;
Prepare the way of the Lord! (x2)

CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER†

Come as an Advent people; praise the God of hope.
We come with glad and thankful hearts.
Follow the holy way; make the path clear.
Together we will walk the road to Bethlehem.
Let us pray:
**Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, O Promised One, we come to this
time of Advent awaiting your presence. Give us the wisdom to see
meaning in these busy days. Give us the courage to wait in times of
pain and trouble. Give us the compassion to wait for one another.
Give us the faith to wait for the Messiah when we are threatened by
the Herods of this world and even when we cannot hear the angels
singing. Give us the love that does not wait when it meets Christ in our
neighbor. Come among us, Holy God. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN** *People Look East*

VU 9

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION† Anita Grace
**Holy God, help us to give voice to the wonderful news: you, yourself
are coming to dwell among us! Quicken our imaginations to find new
and creative ways to proclaim Christ's coming. Amen.**

First Lesson: Genesis 1:26-38; 5:1b-2 Anita Grace
[God blesses humankind.]

Anthem *Quelle est cette odeur agréable* arr. Donald Patriquin

Second Lesson: Isaiah 9:2; 6-7 Marilyn Sierolaski
[Christ's birth and *basileia* are foretold.]

Carol *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* **VU 58**

Third Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-3a; 4a; 6-9 Anita Grace
[The peace Christ will bring is foretold.]

Carol *O Ancient Love (verses 1 & 4)* **VU 17**

Fourth Lesson from Luke: 1:26-35; 38 Marilyn Sierolaski
[The Annunciation]

Anthem *Jesus the Christ is Born* arr. Donald Patriquin

Fifth Lesson: Luke 2:1; 3-7 Anita Grace
[Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.]

Carol *Still, Still, Still* **VU 47**

Sixth Lesson: Luke 2:8-16 Marilyn Sierolaski
[The shepherds go to the manger.]

Anthem *Carol of the Field Mice* Donald Patriquin

Seventh Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12 Anita Grace
[The wise men are led by the star.]

Carol *The First Nowell* **VU 91**

Eighth Lesson: John 1:1–14
[The mystery of incarnation.]

Marilyn Sierolaski

Carol *He Is Born (Il est ne)*

VU 50

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERING *Veni Emmanuel*

arr. Pietro Yon

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE** *What Child is This?*

VU74

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come

one and all, to own him. The King of kings salvation
brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels
sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison) †

Accept, O God, this money offered, these gifts given, the goodwill of
our hearts, and the dedication of our whole selves for the work of
justice, healing, peace and compassion in a hurting world. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

***HYMN** *Angels from the Realms of Glory*

VU 36

***COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING ††**

Depart in peace, and take with you the certain knowledge
That God is always coming into the world.

**We will seek God, not in a long ago stable or ancient manger,
But in the people we meet and the depths of our own hearts.**

May the blessing of Christmas make you a blessing to others;

May the peace of the season pervade all that you do.

We will welcome the challenge of discipleship.

We will offer ourselves as God's ministers.

Let us go in love and peace! Amen.

RECESSIONAL *Pastorella Adventus*

J.C.F. Fischer

*(Please feel free to stay and listen or to move to the hall for coffee, tea
and cookies. All are welcome!)*

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†† Contributed by Jeanyne Slettom. Process and Faith.

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UNITED CHURCH



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