

Advent Prayer

Gathering Prayer

- Presider: Loving God, we approach you in wonder and awe our hearts desiring the warmth of your love. Move through our lives with the hope of the One-who-is to-Come.
- One Loving God of Light, come to our assistance
- All Help us to walk boldly in your light.
- One Let your WORD inflame our hearts.
- All May your WORD call us to oneness and forgiveness.
- One People of the light, join hands and hearts this afternoon.
- All That together we wake up and welcome life in all its fulness.

Time To Wake Up

- Reader 1 Advent is a time for great contemplation:
"You are here, Christ, in our midst!
Through you, with you, in you
God takes on our human form!"
- Reader 2 Advent is a time
for great decision:
"Though weak and forgetful
we choose,
through our words and deeds,
often so lowly and fragile,
to enflesh the gospel
upon the earth!"
- Reader3 Advent is a time for open hearts!
Only then will we be capable of noticing those tiny signs
of the One who has come, once and for all,
to join us on our daily journey.
- Song Speak Lord I'm listening, plant your WORD down deep in me.
Speak Lord I'm listening please show me the way. (2)



AN ADVENT PSALM: Edward Hays

Antiphon: Awaken, my heart, God's reign is near;
The Peaceable Kingdom is in my hands.

All: O God, awaken our hearts to your peace!

1. If the wolf can be the guest of the lamb,
And the bear and cow be friends,
Then no injury or hate can be a guest
within the kingdom of my heart.
2. Eden's peace and harmony will only return
when first, in my heart, there hides no harm or ruin,
For the Peaceable Kingdom is in my hands.
1. Isaiah 's dream became Jesus' vision:
"Come follow me," Emmanuel's echo rings.
Reform your life, recover Eden's peace,
for only then will salvation appear.
2. For Advents dream is the healing of earth,
when the eagle and bear become friends,
the child and the serpent playmates.
1. Arise, awaken, my heart
the Peaceable Kingdom is in your hands!



READING: ISAIAH 40: 25-31

To whom then will you compare me
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
Lift up your head on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength
mighty in power,
not one is missing.

Why do you say O Jacob,
and speak O Israel,
"My way is hidden from the Lord,
and my right is discarded by my God?"
Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;

He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and grow weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait for the Lord will renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not grow weary,
they shall walk and not faint. Pause



We are called by the WORD, challenged by the WORD, stirred by God's WORD to us and in us. We can choose to hear the WORD, to receive it and to let ourselves be transformed by it. What WORD of God is given to me tonight?

RITUAL We are invited to come and receive a WORD.
(****The sacred word of scripture)
As we move through Advent, take time to see how God's Word continues to speak to you and in you. What might it Call you to do? Let us take five minutes of quiet time.

Response:

All: Happy those who hear the word and follow it with their lives.
 God be with us as we try to give flesh and meaning to your words.

INTERCESSIONS Spontaneous

Song Speak Lord I'm listening plant your word down deep in me.
 Speak Lord I'm listening please show me the way.

Closing prayer

ALL May we refresh our awareness of Christ's coming to us into our day.
 Let us open our minds and hearts to welcome this treasure. May we
 Allow this inner light to generate kindness and goodwill toward all. AMEN.

Hope



(**** In a dish put different short passages from Scripture ex. Be still and know that I am God)