Yellowknife United Church

An Affirming Ministry and Congregation of The United Church of Canada

First Sunday of Advent – November 27, 2016

* - rise in body or in spirit



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The bulletin this week is sponsored by Ken and Jeannette Hall in memory of Ruby Crane who died November 25, 2001

Gathering

Acknowledging the Territory in Which We Gather

The Candles are Lit

Advent Introit 7 MV Gather Us In, Ground Us in You Gather us in, ground us in you 2x Gather us in, gather us in, ground us, ground us, in you.

Lighting the Advent Candle

Child: Dear God, today I light a candle for hope in our world. (*Light a blue candle.*)

May it burn brightly and warmly in our hearts. (Pause for reflection.)

Adult: Your love dances like the flame on this candle,
O God, reminding us of the light of your presence which is both promised and present in this season of Advent.
May it bring hope, may it inspire hope, may we be messengers of hope.

Advent Candlelighting Song

19 VU Kindle a Flame to Lighten the Dark

*Hymn 9 VU People, Look East

Silent Waiting and Confession

Words of Assurance

Listening

The Life and Work of the Community

Anthem One Candle Words and Music by Jan Reese

Learning with Children

Song 7 VU Hope Is a Star (*Verse* 1)

Hebrew Bible Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Responsive Reading: Psalm 122 *page 845 VU*

Epistle Reading: Romans 13:11-14 **Gospel Reading:** Matthew 24:36-44

Sermon A Mysterious Kind of Waiting

Responding

*Hymn 530 VU All Beautiful the March of Days

Minute for Mission

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offering *Doxology* 544 VU

Prayers of the People

*Hymn 5 VU All Earth is Waiting

*Blessing and Sending Forth

Into the waiting time we go, **open and ready for the days ahead.**

Into the listening time we go,

attuned and attentive for voices of hope.

And into the seeing time we go,

alert to the unfolding presence of love.

Now may the grace of the Promised One, the love of God who calls all things into being and abiding friendship of the Holy Spirit, lead, uphold, and strengthen us, now, as always.

Choral Response 220 MV Hope Shines as the Solitary Star Hope shines as the solitary star, faith is the inner light. You and I together mirror the Light of Lights, And illumine the pathway home.