

First Sunday in Advent, 29 Nov. 29 2020

A liturgy for use at home

Notes:

A liturgy for use at home. Please adapt it as you see fit. Words in italics are instructions.

*Words in **bold** are said by all.*

PREPARATION

Set out four Advent Candles and one Christ Candle

Call to Worship and Advent Candle Lighting
(from Isaiah 64)

Reader 1

Since the world began,
no ear has heard
and no eye has seen a God like you,
who works for those who wait for him.

Reader 2:

You, LORD, are our Father.
We are the clay, you are the potter;
we are all the work of your hand

the first Advent candle is lit

People:

**We wait for you Lord to do what only you
can do.**

Mould us and shape us for your glory.

Sing: O come O Come Emmanuel (verse 1)

Prayer of Adoration¹

Father in heaven,
our hearts desire the warmth of your love,
and our minds are searching for the light of
your Word.
Increase our longing for Christ, our Savior,
and give us the strength to grow in love,
that the dawn of his coming
may find us rejoicing in his presence
and welcoming the light of his truth. Amen

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

"We have all become like one who is unclean,
even our righteous deeds are like a filthy
cloth.

We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us
away.

There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you"
Merciful God, we share Isaiah's contrite
confession.

silence

We share also Isaiah's faith:
"you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand"

Cleanse us, shape us, refine us for your glory,
we pray. Amen.

The Peace is shared

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture

Isaiah 64: 1-9
Mark 13: 24-37

Collect

Lord our God, keep us your servants alert
and watchful as we await the return of Christ
your Son, so that when he comes and knocks
at the door he may find us vigilant in prayer,
with songs of praise on our lips.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you, in unity of
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

¹ from the Worship Source Book

Sermon

- A written reflection is appended to these notes. The Sunday Sermon is also online².

THE RESPONSE

- The prophet prays “O that you would tear open the heavens and come down” (Is 64:1). Experiment with using this line to open your own prayers - especially as we pray for victims and perpetrators of Gender Based Violence during the “16days of Activism”.
- How has God the Father (Is. 61) shaped you as “clay” in his loving hands? Give thanks for the work the Spirit has done in your life.
- Use the Advent season to ask God who you can serve, help, or bless as we approach Christmas.

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

These prayers may help as you hold before God the needs of our nation and church. Pray them as written or allow them to lead you into your own prayers of intercession.

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray.

In joyful expectation of his coming to reign
we pray to our Lord, saying,
Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to your world as King of the nations.
We pray for.....
Before you rulers will stand in silence.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to your Church as Lord and Judge.
We pray for.....

Help us to live in the light of your coming
and give us a longing to do your will.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to your people
as Saviour and bearer of pain.

We pray for.....

Enfold us all in your love and mercy,
wipe away the tears of failure, fear and
distress, and set us free to serve you forever.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to us from heaven with power and
great glory, and lift us up to meet you, where
with all your saints and angels, we will live
with you forever.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Amen.

listen to or sing a song or hymn

Benediction

**And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus
Christ, and the love of God, and the
fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all,
now and forever more. Amen**

² <https://durbanvillemethodist.co.za/category/sermons/>

