



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
December 3, 2017

Advent One - Hope

Leading Worship: Rev. Annette Taylor
Reader: Brian McConkey
Pianist: Joan Williamson



GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

*"There is a crack in everything
that's how the light gets in."*

- Leonard Cohen

Welcome and Announcements

Sharing of Peace/Prelude

Lighting of the Candles

Advent Hymn: VU #6 A Candle is Burning (*verse 1*)
(*please remain seated*)

Call to Worship

ONE: Come, people of God, holy creations, wholly God's,
with our holey and ragged lives.

**ALL: We come, seeking God's grace
to make us whole.**

ONE: Come on this first Sunday of Advent.

**ALL: We come to begin the journey toward Christmas,
preparing our hearts and our homes
to welcome the Christ child.**

ONE: Come to trust, listen, believe and imagine
what is possible with the incarnate God
in our lives and in our world.

ALL: We come, O God, we come.

Adapted from: Susan Lukey, *Gathering*, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany
2017-2018, page 26.

Worship Schedule

Journeying Through Advent with Leonard Cohen

- | | | |
|--------|---|-----------------------|
| Dec 10 | Advent Two – Peace
- <i>Nevermind</i> | - Rev. Annette Taylor |
| Dec 17 | Advent Three – Joy
- <i>Hallelujah</i> (White Gift Sunday) | - Rev. Annette Taylor |
| Dec 24 | Advent Four – Love
- <i>Amen</i> | - Rev. Annette Taylor |
| Dec 24 | Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (7:00 pm) | |

Recent Events

Friday, December 1st – Theresa Bull Graveside Service



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Opening Hymn: VU #2 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
(please stand as you are able)

Opening Prayer and Jesus' Prayer

Ground of our Being,
this Advent season is a reminder
of your coming amongst us.

To us, you are a mystery,
and yet we often experience your presence
in the midst of ordinary life.

In our despair, you are the source of Hope.
In our turmoil, you are the birthplace of Peace.
In our sadness, you are the font of Joy.
In our heartache, you are the cradle of Love.
As we enter this time of worship

may our hearts be open to your abiding grace.

Adapted from: Kim Falls, *Gathering*, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany
2017-2018, page 27.

WORD

Hymn: MV #158 Dream a Dream *(verses 1, 2 & 3)*
(please remain seated)

Community Learning Time - Melanie Davis

Hymn: MV #158 Dream a Dream *(verse 4)*
(please remain seated)

Scripture Reading: Mark 13:24-33

ONE: We read this text so that in it we may find wisdom for life.

ALL: May we be open to the Wisdom we understand and hear.

Song: Anthem
- Leonard Cohen

Reflection: A Crack in Everything

Choral Offering: Come Find Forgiveness and Love
- Don Besig and Nancy Price

RESPONSE

Minute for Mission: Microcredit Funds Hope

Offering

Offertory Hymn: These Gifts We Bring

- Pat Mayberry (please stand as you are able)

Prayer of Dedication

Through these gifts, may we be agents of hope
in your world,
lifting people up in love
so they can experience an abundant future.

Amen.

Adapted from: Karen Boivin, *Gathering*, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany
2017-2018, page 30.

Celebration of Communion

(Chant: MV #202 Bread for the Journey)

Closing Hymn: VU #424 May the God of Hope
(please stand as you are able)

Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Closing: MV #220 Hope Shines as the Solitary Star

Postlude

Lectionary Readings for December 10, 2107

Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalm 85 :1-2,8-13 (VU p. 802)

2 Peter 3 :8-15a

Mark 1 :1-8

Anthem

The birds they sang at the break of day
Start again I heard them say
Don't dwell on what has passed away
or what is yet to be.
Ah the wars they will be fought again
The holy dove she will be caught again
bought and sold and bought again
the dove is never free.
Ring the bells that still can ring
Forget your perfect offering
There is a crack in everything
That's how the light gets in.
We asked for signs the signs were sent:
the birth betrayed the marriage spent
Yeah the widowhood of every government --
signs for all to see.
I can't run no more with that lawless crowd
while the killers in high places
say their prayers out loud.
But they've summoned,
they've summoned up a thundercloud
and they're going to hear from me.
Ring the bells that still can ring ...
You can add up the parts
but you won't have the sum
You can strike up the march, there is no drum
Every heart, every heart to love will come
but like a refugee.
Ring the bells that still can ring
Forget your perfect offering
There is a crack, a crack in everything
That's how the light gets in.
Ring the bells that still can ring
Forget your perfect offering
There is a crack, a crack in everything
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- By Leonard Cohen