

ORDER OF SERVICE  
13 December 2020 – Tannum Sands  
Advent 3

<b>GATHER</b>			
<b>Call to Worship</b>			Rev Allan Smith
<b>Hymn/Song</b>	Joyful, joyful, we adore you	TIS 152	
<b>Advent Candle Lighting</b>			
<b>Praise Time (10min)</b>	Here I am to worship Hear our praises	CCLI 3266032 SCE[2] 886/CCLI 2543402	
<b>Welcome &amp; Celebrations</b>			Rev Allan Smith
<b>Prayer: Adoration, Confession, Declaration of Forgiveness</b>			Rev Allan Smith
<b>Passing the Peace</b>			
<b>Children's Story</b>			Stephen Rankin
<b>Song</b>	Make way	SIS 587/SCE 349/ P&W 449/CCLI 121074	
<b>HEAR THE WORD</b>			
<b>Bible Readings</b>	<b>Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; Jn. 1:6-8, 19-28</b>		Sylvia Jones
<b>Message</b>	<i>Witnessing to the Light - Joy</i>		Rev Allan Smith
<b>Song (Optional)</b>	Comfort comfort	TIS 647/CCLI 127188	
<b>RESPOND</b>			
<b>Affirmation of Faith</b>	A creed for Advent		
<b>Offering Dedication</b>	Rev Allan Smith		
<b>Notices &amp; Concerns of the Church</b>	Rev Allan Smith		
<b>Prayers of the People</b>	Rev Allan Smith		
<b>Communion Song</b>	Broken for me	SCE 58/CCLI 39025	
<b>Communion</b>	Rev Allan Smith & Elders		
<b>Song (after Communion)</b>	Days of Elijah	SCE 503/CCLI 1537904	
<b>BLESS</b>			
<b>Mission/Benediction</b>	Rev Allan Smith		
<b>Benediction/Going Out Song</b>			

Preaching	Rev Allan Smith
Worship Introduction	Rev Allan Smith
Notices of the Church & Prayers of the People	Rev Allan Smith
Bible Reader	Sylvia Jones
Song Selector	Rev. Allan Smith
Piano	
Backup Singers	
Additional Music	
Sound System	
Data Operator	
Power Point Producer	
Offering Collectors	NA
Communion Bread	

**Blessed is the kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.**

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 126*)

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion  
it was like living in a dream;

***our mouths overflowed with laughter,  
and our tongues sang with joy.***

All the people round about said,  
“The LORD has done great things for them.”

***The LORD did indeed do great things for us  
– and we were overjoyed.***

O LORD, restore us again,  
***like the creek-beds in ‘the bush’:***

those who sowed with tears  
***reaping with shouts of gladness,***  
our journey in a broken world  
***giving way to abundant joy.***

Let us worship God.

SONG     [Joyful, joyful we adore you](#)

CANDLE LIGHTING ADVENT 3

SONGS    [Here I am to worship](#)

[Hear our praises](#)

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Lover of justice: you flex your righteousness, and scatter evil to the wind;  
you plant hope in our heart and reap a bumper crop;  
you wipe away the tears from our eyes, and anoint us with the oil of joy.

Servant of God: you bandage our souls as you take our wounds upon yourself;  
you set us free from sin, by being bound to the cross;  
you console the grieving, by carrying death to its resting place.

Spirit of Passion: when sin strips us of life, clothe us in salvation's finery;  
when we are deafened by the peddlers of fear, whisper the Good News to us;  
when we shiver in death's winter, wrap us in the shawl of hope.

God in Community, Holy in One,  
anoint us with your grace.  
In Jesus' name we pray.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Justice, we confess that our ways are not your ways. We want justice to be punishment, for the people who have wronged us to get what we feel they deserve. This is not your way. Your ways of justice are about restoration, about healing, about reconciliation.

Forgive us when we make justice about ourselves. Forgive us when we ignore the cries of those who face oppression, who are marginalized, who are imprisoned, who are in the valley of the shadow. Call us into the ways of your justice, mercy, and peace.

In the name of Christ we pray all things. Amen.

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

God has made an eternal covenant with us,  
promising to make us holy in every way.  
In grace and mercy God will keep us free  
from every fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Brothers and sisters in Christ,  
Be at peace for your sins are forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

SONG     [Make way](#)

## BIBLE READINGS

[Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11](#)

[1 Thessalonians 5:16-24](#)

[John 1:6-8, 19-28](#)

SERMON   [Witnessing to the light - Joy](#)     [Sermon.mp3](#)

SONG     [Comfort comfort](#)

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of all righteousness, bless these gifts, and all our giving, we pray. Anoint and empower us with your Spirit to reveal your love as clearly as Jesus did, by binding up the broken-hearted, proclaiming the good news of justice and peace, and releasing those who are oppressed in any way. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of promise and might, we bless you for your good news that sustains us through the trials of every-day life. You embrace us when we mourn and set us free from our fears. Empower us to reach out in your name to proclaim this same good news to all your people, for the promise is theirs as well. (Isaiah 61)

God of restoration and wholeness, you know our every fear. You know what brings us grief. Look into our hearts today so that those who are weeping might find joy, those who are divided might be reunited, those who are fearful might find hope. (Psalm 126)

Spirit of God, move within your people in all lands. Grant rulers and leaders of nations consideration of the needs of all the citizens of their lands that they might rule with justice and mercy. He, 20s to listen to YOUR words so that we might also promote equity in our land. Keep us in your grace so that we might be found blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thess 5:16-23)

God of light, all-powerful Lord, send us out into this wilderness to announce your good news of wholeness and healing. Be present with all who need your tender care, especially those we name now...

This morning, we pray especially for...

Commission us, your servants, to care for them in your name. (John 1:6-8, 19-28)

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SONG: COMMUNION      [Broken for me](#)

SONG      [Days of Elijah](#)

## WORD OF MISSION AND BLESSING

Go now, for you are chosen and sent in the Spirit.  
Pray at all times, be thankful in all circumstances.  
Keep what is good, avoid every kind of evil.  
To all in need bear witness that the time has come  
when the Sovereign Lord will save his people.

And may God who gives peace make you holy in every way;  
May Christ Jesus clothe you with salvation and victory;  
And may the Holy Spirit speak through you with the good news of hope.

And may the grace...

## **A Creed for Advent**

We are an Advent people,  
a people of hope.  
For us, Advent is a time of waiting,  
and so we wait.

We wait for the coming of the One  
who is the fulfillment of God's promise,  
the fulfillment of hope,  
the declaration that we have been redeemed.

Even so, we are not a naïve people.  
We know that the world in which we live  
will continue to be filled with pain and sorrow.  
We know that hatred and violence will continue to exist.  
We know that death and separation will continue to be a part of our lives.

But because we are an Advent people,  
we know that none of these things will win in the end.

The Holy One is coming,  
to make holy once again  
all that was, is, and ever will be.

And in our waiting and our hoping,  
we work and worship,  
pray and play,  
in all things hoping that peace, love and joy will reign  
in our lives and in our world,  
now and forever.

HOLY COMMUNION: Advent 3 Year B

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God,  
for you have turned our grief into songs of joy,  
and clothed us in salvation and victory.

You planted the earth and all life,  
and called a people to be your light in the world.  
When they were taken weeping into exile,  
you promised through your prophets  
to bring them home to Zion, singing and laughing.

Salvation has come in your Messiah, Jesus,  
— the one whose coming light  
your servant, John, bore witness to.  
Filled with your Spirit,  
Jesus came proclaiming good news for the poor,  
healing for the broken hearted,  
and the day of freedom to all who are bound.

He was killed by the proud and powerful,  
but with your wonderful power you raised him to life.  
In his presence we are filled with expectant hope and joy,  
and eager to embrace your eternal covenant.

And so we praise you...

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

WORD OF MISSION AND BENEDICTION

And may the grace...