

ORDER OF SERVICE
12 December 2021 – Tannum Sands
 Advent 3

GATHER			
Call to Worship			Rev Allan Smith
Hymn/Song	Sing with joy, you Advent people! (Tune: Angels we have heard on high TIS 309)	Attached	
Candle Lighting			Rev Allan Smith
Praise Time (10min)	Hear our praises Emmanuel, Emmanuel	SCE[2] 886/ CCLI 2543402 SCE 675 CCLI 12949	
Welcome & Celebrations			Rev Allan Smith
Prayer: Adoration, Confession, Declaration of Forgiveness			Rev Allan Smith
Passing the Peace			
Children's Story			Dingles
Song	Be still for the presence of the Lord	SCE 47/P&W 527	
HEAR THE WORD			
Bible Readings	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Philippians 4:4-7	Luke 3:7-18 Sylvia
Message	<i>Advent gets personal</i>		Rev Allan Smith
Song	What a friend we have in Jesus (Tune: Converse)	TIS 590	
RESPOND			
Affirmation of Faith	Advent Creed		
Offering Dedication			Rev Allan Smith
Notices & Concerns of the Church			Rev Allan Smith
Prayers of the People			Rev Allan Smith
Communion Song	Broken for me	SCE 58	
Holy Communion	Rev Allan Smith & Elders		
Song	Rejoice, the Lord is King	TIS 216	
BLESS			
Mission/Benediction			Rev Allan Smith
Benediction/Going Out Song			

Preaching	Rev Allan Smith
Worship Introduction	Rev Allan Smith
Notices of the Church & Prayers of the People	Rev Allan Smith
Bible Reader	
Song Selector	Rev Allan Smith
Piano	Hilda Morris
Backup Singers	
Additional Music	
Sound System	
Data Operator	Rev Allan Smith
Power Point Producer	Rev Allan Smith
Offering Collectors	
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 (*Isaiah 12: 2-6*)

God is our salvation, our strength and our power,

the one in whom we trust and to whom we give thanks.

As the sun-dried land rejoices when refreshed by rain, so we rejoice

when we draw refreshment from deep wells of living water.

We shall make the deeds of God known among all nations

And proclaim to all that God's name is to be glorified and praised.

Let us worship God.

SONG Sing with joy, you Advent people!

CANDLE LIGHTING

~~PRAYER OF INVOCATION~~

SONGS [Hear our praises](#)

[Emmanuel, Emmanuel](#)

PRAYER OF ADORATION (*from Zeph. 3:14-20*)

God has stayed the hand of judgment and granted us mercy.

We who have sinned greatly and lived timidly, receive unexpected pardon.

You have routed all the enemies that seek us harm and defeated their plans to devour us.

You lift us out of the midst of our weariness, strengthen us when we are weak, bring us out of the depths of despair and fill our souls with joy.

You blow away the clouds of distress and usher in the bright rays of sunshine. You shelter us from the storms and give safe harbor from the rising tides.

So we lift our prayers of joy—

Raise the roof with the sounds of our joy for the salvation of our God.

You protect us from the evils around us, that would feast on the bounty you have set before us.

You guard against institutions that corrupt our souls, that rip away the fabric of our well-being, robbing us of our mirth.

You replace our fears with joy, turn shadows into light. Sorrow fades from our memories and gladness breaks like morning.

So we lift our prayers of joy—

Raise the roof with the sounds of our joy for the salvation of our God.

You wash away our sorrows, and replace them with dances for joy. The agony we have carried is lifted off our shoulders.

Faces streaked with tears break out in smiles.
Hearts filled with regret now spring with relief.

Our exile in death's oppression is left behind as we march into the brilliance
of the resurrection morning.

**So we lift our prayers of joy—
Raise the roof with the sounds of our joy for the salvation of our God.**

O God of Advent night
Saviour of Easter morning
We sing our songs of thanksgiving
And pray the prayers of joy.
Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Light, sometimes all we see is the smoke from the extinguished candle.
Sometimes all we know is the fear of losing instead of the joy of loving. Sometimes
all we believe are empty promises of long-lost dreams instead of the wonder and
awe of trusting you are doing something new.

In this time of brokenness in our world, in this space of emptiness, in this realm of
hopelessness: restore our faith. Renew our hope. Regain our trust in one another
and in the goodness of your love.

Be born in us, again, and again, so that we might live into hope, build peace in this
world, and rejoice that you are still ever present with us and will not let the world
fall apart. You will not let us fail. Love will never end, but always prevails. Help us
to cling to this: that what we know is you are good. you are love. you are light.

In the name of Jesus the Christ, for whom all things are expectantly waiting. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

God is your Saviour; you have nothing to fear.
The Lord has taken away the judgments against you
and invited you to draw freely
from the well of salvation.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ
be at peace—your sins are forgiven;

Thanks be to God. Amen.

SONG [Be still for the presence of the Lord](#)

BIBLE READINGS

[Zephaniah 3:14-20](#)

[Philippians 4:4-7](#)

[Luke 3:7-18](#)

SERMON [Advent gets personal](#)

SONG [What a friend we have in Jesus](#)

OFFERING

We rejoice, O God, in your care for us and we offer these gifts and the service of our lives in glad response. We pray that they will bear fruits worthy to be harvested in Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Merciful God, your protection for your people knows no bounds of time or place. Yet, in this world there are those who live in fear. Homes in our neighbourhoods are not free from violence. Shelter is needed for the homeless and hungry. And, around the world your children hurt each other because of pride and greed. As St. Francis prayed: Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love. Where there is despair, hope; and where there is sadness, joy. Make your name known through our actions. (Zeph 3:14-20)

Strong and mighty God, you have done wondrous deeds for your creation. You are always to be praised. Stir up within your children a respect for each other and for you, so that all will live together in harmony and your ways will be written on our hearts. (Isa 12:2-6)

Joyous Lord God, you created us and all that exists and called it good. As we consider the ways we have turned against you and our neighbour, our family and friends, we recognize our need for your forgiveness. Renew us through the healing power of your gift of love, and send us your peace that passes all understanding. (Phil 4:4-7)

Powerful and loving God, you know we descendants in faith of Abraham and Sarah are a broken people who need your healing touch. We lift to you these, your children, who need wholeness in body, mind or spirit...

This morning, we pray especially for...

Through your grace, though we don't deserve it, you make us whole. When we are seized by fear, give us your comfort and hope. (Luke 3:7-18)

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

COMMUNION SONG [Broken for me](#)

SONG [Rejoice, the Lord is King](#)

WORD OF MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Go now and rejoice in the Lord always.
Do not be afraid or worried about anything,
but in everything trust God and pray.
Bear fruits worthy of repentance,
sharing what you have and being gentle with all.

And may the grace...

HOLY COMMUNION: Advent 3 Year C

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God,
for you are coming in the fire of love
to baptise your people and gather them home.

In love, you created the earth and its inhabitants
and sent faithful prophets like your servant John,
to call us, and all Abraham's children,
to turn to you and bear fruits of justice and mercy.

In your child, Jesus, you made your home in our midst.
Liberating the lame and gathering the outcast,
he confronted our oppressors
and lifted us from shame to honour.
When he was cut down and killed
you raised him to resurrection life.

Now, as the day of his coming draws near,
he plunges us into his Spirit and fire
to renew us in love, and banish our fear,
so that we might praise your name forever
and draw freely from the well of your salvation.

And so we praise you...

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

WORD OF MISSION AND BENEDICTION