

### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Meet us at this table, loving God.  
Make this meal sign and symbol  
of your constant presence.

**Christ be present in our watching. Amen.**

*Communion is shared*

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, God, for refreshing us at this table.  
The wait – for love, justice, peace – is long  
and our work to keep the faith  
and hold the light  
is always before us.

**We are made steady  
and refreshed by this reminder  
of your presence, God with us, Emmanuel. Amen**

**HYMN** TiS 265            O Come, O come, Emmanuel

### WORDS OF MISSION AND BLESSING

Go now and walk in the light of the Love.  
Stay alert for Love is near.  
Wrap yourselves in light  
and pray for peace.

And may God keep you alert and ready;  
May Christ Jesus be your guiding light;  
And may the Holy Spirit keep your heart open  
to receive the love that is promised.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

**And also with you.**

The sign of the peace is exchanged.

*Everyone is invited to stay for a light continental breakfast  
following this service.*



**Pilgrim Uniting Church  
12 Flinders Street, Adelaide**



**8.00am MORNING WORSHIP**

**ADVENT 1**

**27 November 2016**

### WELCOME

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Let the world hold its breath,  
for good is coming in all its vulnerable newness.  
Deep within our life a wonder is conceived,  
hidden in humanity's moments of faithfulness.  
Look for it, for it is near.

Believe in it, for it is trustworthy and true.  
Be ready to nurture its life among us,  
for it is precious, fragile, hopeful.

**Christ be present in our watching  
and our waiting. Amen**

#### PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Unexpected God,  
your advent alarms us.  
Wake us from drowsy worship,  
from the sleep that neglects love,  
and the sedative of misdirected frenzy.  
Awaken us now to your coming,  
and bend our angers into your peace. **Amen**

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray.  
Loving God, we confess that it is hard  
to keep expecting good  
when the forces against it seem so great.  
It can be difficult to look at the world and believe in love.  
**Open our lives and our hearts  
to a better hope for ourselves and our world. Amen**

*A time of silence for reflection*

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Greater than all our expectations,  
wider than all our horizons  
stretching forth before us  
is the grace and kindness of God.  
We are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God. Amen**

## LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

We light this candle  
that it may shine around us  
reminding us to stay awake  
and to expect the coming of the Christ,  
the love at the heart of all our longings.  
**Christ be present in our watching.**

**HYMN** TiS 647                      Comfort, comfort all my people

## BIBLE READINGS:

Isaiah 2:1-5  
Psalm 122  
Romans 13:11-14  
Matthew 24:36-44

## REFLECTION

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we bring our prayers together,  
we add to the light of the world.  
Our prayers are an act of faith,  
a way of watching for love,  
attending to its presence,  
trusting in its truth.  
Let us pray.

**Open our hearts  
that we might have  
ears to hear  
and eyes to see  
the people and places  
that wait for love.**

*a time of silence for prayer*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**HYMN** TiS 497                      Let all mortal flesh keep silence  
*During the singing of this hymn, we will receive our offering for the work of the church in the world.*

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

The promise of love is wider than the sea,  
deeper than the earth,  
and higher than the skies.

**Let these gifts and the gift of our lives  
express the hope and joy of love,  
that none need wait for peace. Amen**

## HOLY COMMUNION

### THE INVITATION

### THE NARRATIVE OF THE LAST SUPPER

### THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us open our hearts.

**We open our hearts to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you all thanks and praise, O God,  
for the night is nearly gone,  
and your light is dawning in the darkness.

You are the source of all life and light.  
Though the day and hour cannot be known,  
through your prophets, you have given us  
visions of our approaching salvation.

In your child, Jesus the Christ,  
you have called all peoples to yourself  
and taught us your ways.  
When he was killed,  
you raised new life in him  
and promised the return of love  
at an unexpected hour  
to gather up your faithful ones  
and bring them home to your house,  
so that the weapons and works of darkness  
might be discarded  
and all might be securely clothed in Christ.

Therefore, with expectant hearts,  
we offer you thanks and praise at all times  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**