



# St Ives Uniting Church

1 December 2024

Advent 1

**Holy Communion**

## Lighting the first Advent Candle

We light the Candle of Hope with our hearts full of anticipation.

**Knowing that God's Kingdom is near, and that God's light will shine bright in the midst of our darkness.**

**Response:** 265 O come, O come Emmanuel (1<sup>st</sup> verse only)

## Welcome and call to worship

God alone is our hope,  
**Our refuge and shelter.**

We are called to share this Good News to our world,  
**declaring that God is our source of all hope.**

We are called to act for peace and justice,  
**knowing that God makes all things possible.**

We are called to love our neighbours  
**knowing that God's love never fails.**

**Hymn:** 158 God has spoken by his prophets

**Prayers of adoration and confession**

## **Assurance of forgiveness**

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Hear then the word of grace and the assurance of pardon:

Your sins are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you**

## **Notices**

Lawrence Peak

## **Bible readings**

### **Jeremiah 33:14-16**

Margaret Jeffery

<sup>14</sup> “‘The days are coming,’ declares the Lord, ‘when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah.

<sup>15</sup> “‘In those days and at that time

I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line;  
he will do what is just and right in the land.

<sup>16</sup> In those days Judah will be saved  
and Jerusalem will live in safety.

This is the name by which it will be called:  
The Lord Our Righteous Savior.’

For the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### **Luke 21:25-36**

Philip Southwell

<sup>25</sup> “There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea.

<sup>26</sup> People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> When

these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

<sup>29</sup> He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. <sup>30</sup> When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. <sup>31</sup> Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

<sup>32</sup> “Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

<sup>34</sup> “Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. <sup>35</sup> For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”

For the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Sermon:** Hope

**Hymn:** 47 Our God, our help in ages past

**Offering**

**Offering response** 768 Praise God from whom all blessings flow

**Prayers of the people**

Annette Burne

**Hymn:** 538 Feed us now, Bread of life

## **Holy Communion**

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...And so we praise you with your people throughout the world and across the years, joining with choirs of angels and the whole of creation in the eternal hymn, saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

...With this bread and this cup we do as our Saviour commands: we celebrate the redemption he has won for us.

**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

...Awaiting his coming in glory, we pray as our Saviour taught us:  
**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

...The gifts of God for the people of God.  
**May we who share these gifts be found in Christ, and Christ in us.**

...God has us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all people, and so we pray together:  
**We thank you, Lord, that when we were still far off, you met us in your Son. He lived and died and rose again, declared your love and gave us the gift of eternal life.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we who the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us in the hope we have in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray.**

**Amen.**

**Hymn: 272 Come thou long expected Jesus**

**Benediction**

**Threefold Amen**

**Postlude**

**Organist**

**John Hughes**

