



St Ives Uniting Church

28th November 2021

Advent 1

Welcome and lighting of the first Advent Candle

Gracious God, on this first Sunday in Advent we begin a spiritual pilgrimage as we joyously anticipate Christmas Day, a reminder of the birth of our Saviour. As we come to this place of worship, we know that we are in your presence. Give us your peace, that through us, all may know the peace that Christ brings. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Hymn: TiS 158 God has spoken by his prophets

Prayer of adoration

Prayer of confession

Have mercy on us, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out all our transgressions.

Wash away all our iniquity
and cleanse us from our sins.

Cleanse us and we will be clean;
wash us, and we will be whiter than snow.

Let us hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

Hide your face from our sins
and blot out all our iniquity.

Create in us pure hearts, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within us.

Restore to us the joy of your salvation
and grant us willing spirits, to sustain each one of us.

(Based on Psalm 51)

Assurance of forgiveness

Hear Christ's word of grace to us:

'Your sins are forgiven.'

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: TiS 154 Great is your faithfulness

Before the readings – The minor prophets

Bible readings

Malachi 3:1-4

Caroline Turner

¹"I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the Lord Almighty.

²But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, ⁴and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Marian Kingham

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. ¹²May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: Refined and purified

Video: Refiner's fire

Offering and prayer

Notices

Lawrence Peak

Prayer for others

Jane Ann Tainsh

The Lord's prayer

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.

Hymn: TiS 276 There's a light upon the mountains

Benediction

Postlude

Pianist

Travis Loughhead

