

Sunday Praise and Worship Service



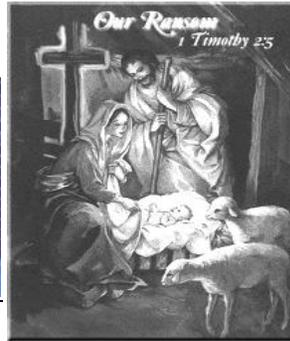
Order of Service † Advent 2011



Bloor Lansdowne Christian Fellowship



11:00 A.M. † December 4, 11 & 25, 2011



Announcements:

- ❖ Wednesday: Bible Study Cancelled December 21 and 28
- ❖ Wednesday 6:00-8:00 PM: BLCF Café Community Dinner
- ❖ Have a Joyous Christmas and a Blessed New Year!



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That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. – Galatians 3:14



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Announcements, Call to Worship,
& Opening Prayer

Hymns

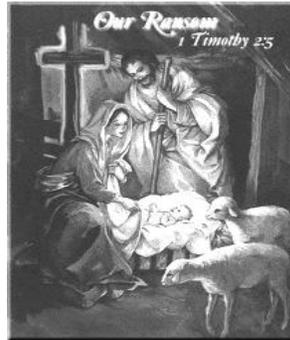
Prayer and Tithing: Hymn #572:
Praise God from Whom All Blessings

Scripture

Message

Hymn

Advent Benediction - "May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. - Amen"



Advent 2011 Anticipation and Hope

According to present usage, Advent is a period beginning with the Sunday nearest to the feast of Andrew, the Apostle (November 30) and embracing four Sundays. The first Sunday may be as early as eight days, or as late as December 3, giving the season only twenty-one days.

Sunday - November 27, 2011 First Sunday of the Advent

The first Candle is lit on the first Sunday of Advent, shortly after November 30. It is called the Prophecy Candle and reminds us that Jesus' coming was prophesied hundreds of years before He was born. The candle's purple color represents Christ's royalty as the King of Kings.

Suggested Bible Reading: Isaiah 9:2-6 and Luke 1:30-35

First (purple) Advent Candle - the Candle of Hope

(The Patriarchs, Abraham, the Old Testament Ancestors of Jesus)

Sunday - December 4, 2011 Second Sunday of the Advent

The second candle, lit on the second Sunday of advent along with the first candle, is the Bethlehem candle, reminding us that Jesus was born in Bethlehem. It too is purple, reminding us that it was a King Who was born in the manger.

Suggested Bible reading: Micah 5:2 and Luke 2:1-7

Second (purple) Advent Candle - The Candle of Peace

(The prophets who foretold the birth of Jesus)

Sunday - December 11, 2011 Third Sunday of the Advent

The third candle, lit on the third Sunday of advent with the first two, is the Shepherds' candle. We are reminded that God sent the angels to proclaim His arrival to common man and that He still uses ordinary people today to spread the good news of Christ. This candle is pink or rose and represents God's love and faithfulness.

Suggested Bible reading: Isaiah 52:7 and Luke 2:8-20

Third (rose) Advent Candle - The Candle of Love

(John The Baptist)

Sunday - December 18, 2011 Fourth Sunday of the Advent

The fourth candle, lit on the fourth Sunday of advent, is the Angel's candle. As we light this flame, we are reminded of the heavenly hosts that proclaimed Christ's arrival with "Behold, I bring unto you good tiding of great joy!" The Angel candle is also purple, reminding us that it was a King's birth the angels were announcing.

Suggested Bible Reading: Ezekiel 34:23, Luke 2:15-20 and John 10:11

Fourth (pink) Advent Candles - The Candle of Joy

(Mary the Mother of Jesus)

Sunday, December 25, 2011 Christmas Day

The last candle. We light our last candle to remember the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. As the prophets promised so long ago, you have come to us once again; and with the shepherds, we are filled with wonder and amazement.

Suggested Bible reading: John 3:19-21

Christ (white) candle - The Last Candle

(The Birth of Christ)

"And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God." - John 3:19-21

