

ALKI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

November 28, 2021

The First Sunday in Advent



**We are a church where Jesus the healer meets Jesus the revolutionary,
and where together, we grow a just and peaceful world.**

Gathering Music	David Duvall, Guest Accompanist
Welcome	Rev. Louis Mitchell
Call to Worship	Joe M, Liturgist
Sung Response	<i>Sanctuary</i> John W. Thompson and Randy Scruggs Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true; With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.
Contemporary Voices	<p>“Your wholeness will be uncomfortable to those who've grown accustomed to brokenness.” — <i>Andrena Sawyer</i></p> <p>“When we dig in the soil and plant a seed, we enter into a cycle of restoration that produces wholeness in us. Our bodies are restored by the tilling and the harvesting, our minds are restored by the space such repetitive work opens up within us, the earth is restored by the nutrients provided through the plants, and our spirits are revived as we become better stewards of what we have been given.” — <i>Jerusalem Jackson Greer, “At Home in this Life: Finding Peace at the Crossroads of Unraveled Dreams and Beautiful Surprises”</i></p>
Opening Song	<i>Welcome to this House</i> David Cowen
Scripture Readings:	Psalm 138 NRSV I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise; I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything. On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth.

They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
for great is the glory of the Lord.

For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly;
but the haughty he perceives from far away.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;
you stretch out your hand,
and your right hand delivers me.

The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.

Do not forsake the work of your hands.

Thessalonians 3:9-13

(adapted from the Message)

What would be an adequate thanksgiving to offer God for all the joy we experience before God because of you? We do what we can, praying away, night and day, asking for the bonus of seeing your faces again and doing what we can to help when your faith falters.

May God our Creator and our Rabbi Jesus clear the road to you! And may the Essence of Love pour out the love so it fills your lives and splashes over on everyone around you, just as it does from us to you. May you be infused with strength and integrity, filled with confidence in the presence of God our Creator when Jesus arrives with all his followers.

Second Hymn *Grateful Nourishment* David Duvall

Sermon "In All Things, Praise!" Rev. Louis

Prayer Time

**"Our Creator, who are in heaven,
Beloved be your names.
Thy kin-dom come.
Thy will be done on earth,
As it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
Forgive us our sins –
As we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
Deliver us from evil.
For yours in the kin-dom,
The power and the glory!
Now and forever. Amen.**

Call to Offering/Offering Prayer

Please donate generously through alkiucc.org, through a mailed donation to the church office or through text-to-give by texting the word "AlkiUCC" to 44321 and a donation link will come back to you. Your support for Alki is more important now than ever as the church seeks to be a prophetic voice for all people in the year ahead.

Musical Offering *The Yearning* Craig Courtney & Susan Bentall Boersma

Announcements

Moment of Ministry: Faith Formation

Closing Hymn *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Benediction Rev. Louis

Sung Benediction *Peace I Leave With You, My Friends* Ray Repp

Postlude**(Virtual) Hospitality Hour**

Alki UCC Sunday worship is recorded for posting on YouTube.