

# ALKI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

December 8, 2024

Order of Service for the Worship of God

## Second Sunday in Advent

### Words for the Beginning:

### *We Can't Go Alone*



**Gathering Music**

Stephen Anthony Rawson, Music Director

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Land Acknowledgment**

Rev. Emily Tanis-Likkel

**Advent Candle Lighting**

**Centering Song**

*Come, Light of Lights*

Ruth Cunningham

**Call to Worship**

Marilynn M, Liturgist

(responsive)

In a world that is lonely,

**we will save a seat for you.**

In a world that is anxious,

**we will light candles against the gloom.**

In a world that is weary,

**we will sing songs of joy and truth.**

I am not alone.

**We are not alone.**

For here in this place, God is weaving us together.

**Light the candles! Sing with joy!**

**Opening Song**

#4, *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You*

**Prayer for Transformation**

**Scripture**

Ruth 1:15-17

NRSV

Naomi said, "Look, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you, to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people and your God my God.

Where you die, I will die, and there will I be buried.  
May the LORD do thus to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!”  
When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.  
So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. When they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them, and the women said, “Is this Naomi?” She said to them, “Call me no longer Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt bitterly with me. I went away full, but the LORD has brought me back empty; why call me Naomi when the LORD has dealt harshly with me and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?”  
So Naomi returned together with Ruth the Moabite, her daughter-in-law, who came back with her from the country of Moab. They came to Bethlehem at the beginning of the barley harvest.

## Sermon

## Quiet Meditation

**Song** #539, *The Servant Song*

## Prayers of the People

## Time, Talent & Treasure

### Mission Updates

### Offering Invitation

**Online:** Please donate generously through [alkiucc.org](http://alkiucc.org), through a mailed donation to the church office or through text-to-give by texting the word “AlkiUCC” to 44321; a donation link will come back to you. Your support for Alki UCC is more important than ever.

**Doxology** Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## Prayer of Dedication

**Closing Song** #81, *God Be With You*

## Benediction

## Sending Music

Service liturgy adapted from A Sanctified Art  
Order of Worship Subject to Change  
Image: “Binding Braids” by Nicolette Peñaranda  
Music Covered by One License.net #A-7 10529  
Portions of today’s service are recorded for posting  
on Alki UCC’s YouTube channel.

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