

We are Gathered by God

Prelude: "Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying", arr. John Carter, © 2012 Hope Pub. Co.

..... Dan Chien, Organist/Choir Director

Introit: "Prepare the Way for the Lord" Deborah Govenor, © 1998 in Choral Responses for Today's Worship,
Hope Pub. Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188

Call to Worship (*The Advent Wreath*)

Grace Walker

Speaker: Lighting a candle in the darkness helps us find our way. In darkness we lose direction.

We cannot see where we have been or where we are going. A single candle, flickering brightly,
helps us find our way again.

**People: "Stir up your might, and come to save us. Restore us,
O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved" (Psalm 80:2b-3).**

(The first candle is lit.)

Speaker: Light one candle; see it glow, Brightly, so that all may know,

How one candle shows the way, Making our darkness bright as God's day.

Hymn: "Come, Thou Almighty King"

Prayer of Invocation

Leader: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

**People: Dear God, on this first Sunday in Advent, let this light shine brightly as the days grow
shorter, so that we will be ready for your face to shine upon us at Christmas. In the Savior's
name we pray. Amen.**

Our Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

**Lord, so often we have been like those who waited for You to send a Savior. We have prayed for
You to deliver us from our circumstances but we have been unwilling to accept Your leadership in
our lives. Forgive us, Lord, for not seeing Your presence around us and for acting at times like Jesus
had not been born. (Silent prayer) In Christ we pray. Amen.**

The Response: ***"Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay Close by me forever and love me, I pray.***

Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with Thee there."

Assurance of Pardon & Summary of the Law

Hymn: "We Gather Together"

We Hear God in Word

Scripture: Isaiah 2:1-5, Romans 13:8-14, Matthew 24:36-44. Mary Jean Scudder, Reader

Sermon: "Wake Up Call"

We Respond to God

Offertory: "The Light of the World", Don Besig, © 1996, GlorySound, a Div. of Shawnee Press, Inc.

Prayer of Dedication and Doxology

Prayers of Intercession

Hymn: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Benediction

Postlude: "People, Look East", arr. Lloyd Larson, © 2012 Hope Pub. Co.