



**KAURIHOHORE / KAMO**  
**CO-OPERATING PARISH**

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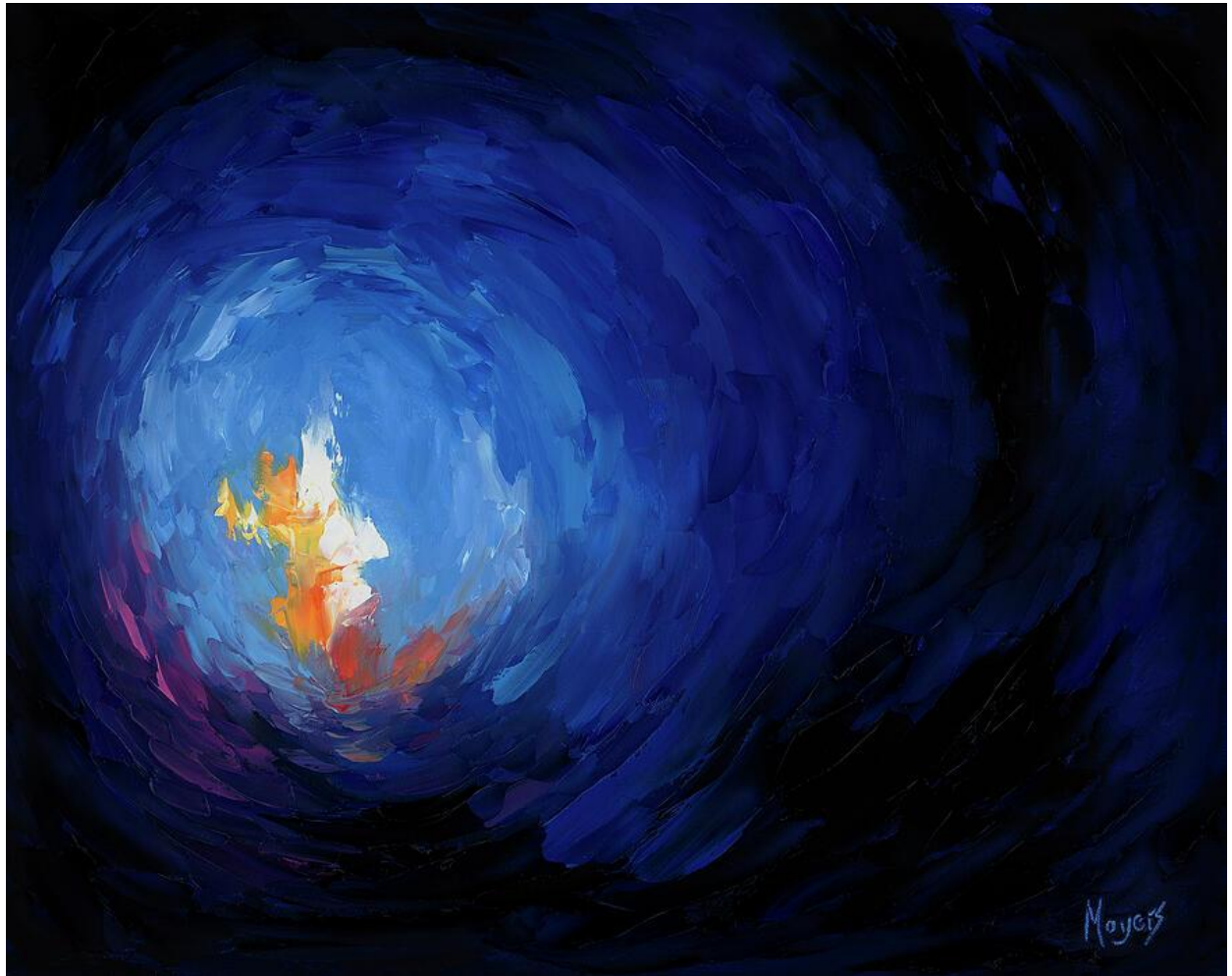
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## **Sunday 30 November 2025 – Advent 1**



*Advent Hope by Mike Moyers*

Our Sharing Service today is led by  
Mike Nielsen, one of our Lay Preachers.

**Welcome to our service this morning.**

In working together on our shared mission, we commit to seven core values:

***Togetherness, Humility, Curiosity, Love, Inclusiveness, Justice, Sustainability.***

**Love:** we are committed to selfless love to all, including those marginalised by society and the wider church.

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**Mission Statement: Sharing God's love, creating hope, working for justice.**

## Welcome

### Call to Worship

God of our waiting,  
God of our anticipation,  
God of hope,  
we await the coming of the Christ.  
Help us to be aware of your presence—  
surrounding, embracing, and inspiring—  
in our time of worship together. Amen.

*Source: L3 — Liturgy, Learning, (Purposeful) Life*

### Lighting the Advent Candles

The Gospel of John speaks of Christ as the true light coming into the world. In commemoration of that coming, we light candles for the four weeks leading to Christmas and reflect on the coming of Christ. It is significant that the church has always used that language—the coming of Christ—because it speaks to a deep truth. Christ is coming. Christ is always coming, always entering a troubled world, a wounded heart. And so we light the first candle, the candle of hope, and dare to express our longing for peace, for healing, and the well-being of all creation.

*First candle is lit.*

*While seated we sing one verse of [“O Come, O come Emmanuel”](#)  
(HFTC 66)*

**Loving God, as we enter this Advent season,  
We open all the dark places in our lives and memories to the healing light of Christ.**

**Show us the creative power of hope.  
Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,  
That we may walk in the light of Christ.  
Amen**

**Scripture Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5**

**Hymn: [Christ Be Our Light \(MP 1201\)](#)**

1. Longing for light,  
we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own,  
your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

2. Longing for peace,  
our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone  
has power to save us.  
Make us your living voice.

**Chorus:**  
***Christ be our light!***  
***Shine in our hearts.***  
***Shine through the darkness.***  
***Christ, be our light!***  
***Shine in your church***  
***gathered today.***

3. Longing for food,  
many are hungry.  
Longing for water,  
many still thirst.  
Make us your bread,  
broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.

## Sharing Time

### Hymn AA 9: [Carol our Christmas \(Shirley Murray\)](#)

1. Carol our Christmas,  
an upside down Christmas;  
snow is not falling and  
trees are not bare.  
Carol the summer, and  
welcome the Christ Child,  
warm in our sunshine and  
sweetness of air.
2. Sing of the gold and the  
green and the sparkle,  
water and river and lure  
of the beach.  
Sing in the happiness  
of open spaces,  
sing a nativity summer  
can reach!
3. Shepherds and musterers  
move over hillsides,  
finding, not angels,  
but sheep to be shorn;  
wise ones make journeys  
whatever the season,  
searching for signs of the  
truth to be born.
4. Right side up Christmas belongs  
to the universe,  
made in the moment  
a woman gives birth;  
hope if the Jesus gift,  
love is the offering,  
everywhere, anywhere,  
here on the earth.

### Hymn AA 12: [Child of Christmas Story \(Shirley Murray\)](#)

1. Child of Christmas story,  
stable straw and star,  
small and sweet and gentle:  
tell us who you are.
2. Child whose baby finger  
round our own is curled,  
come to melt our hearts,  
and come to change the world.
3. Child of Jew and Gentile,  
child of white and black –  
teach us how to love you,  
teach us what we lack.
4. Child of Mary's courage,  
birthed in human pain,  
tell us what your name is –  
be our hope again.

## Sharing Time

## Hymn: Prepare the Way With Quietness (Protest of Praise; [Tune: Land of Rest](#))

1. Prepare the way with quietness,  
a stillness in the storm,  
that will not speak the  
wounding words  
that cheapen or deform.
2. Prepare the way with  
hopeful words  
some mock but others crave,  
that makes the empire  
flinch in fear  
and turn the fearful brave.
3. Prepare the way through  
holding back  
while others grasp and strain
- for unjust wealth and  
untamed power  
that add to human pain.
4. Prepare the way with  
fervent love  
that tears down walls of hate  
and reconstructs a  
kinder world  
that justice can create.
5. Prepare the way until we reach  
the dawn of that new day  
when all our paths converge  
in Christ,  
and we have found our way.

### Offering Prayer

Loving God, we thank you for all the gifts you have given us in life.  
We ask that you take these gifts we have given and our lives,  
and use them to bring about your reign of love, joy, and peace in this world. Amen.

*Source: L3 — Liturgy, Learning, (Purposeful) Life*

### Prayers of the People

Loving God,  
Light of the World,  
we see so many places in our world  
in need of your warmth and light.  
We wait in anticipation for your light  
which shines in the shadows of our lives.  
(time of silence)  
God of light and love,  
be with all for whom we have prayed this day.  
May your light be kindled in their hearts,  
and may our love and compassion  
bring warmth where hope feels faint.  
Amen

*Source: L3 — Liturgy, Learning, (Purposeful) Life*

**Hymn: Advent begins in the darkness of night (Protest of Praise; Tune: Rescov)**

1. Advent begins in the darkness  
of night,  
waiting and watching for signs  
of a light,  
walking in faith that a path  
will appear,  
daring to follow in spite of  
our fear.
2. Advent begins with our dreams yet  
deferred.  
Love sounds ridiculous;  
prayers seem absurd.  
But in the midst of life's centreless  
maze,  
we lift together our  
protest of praise.
3. Advent begins in oppression's  
domain,  
marked by the cries of  
confusion and pain.  
Yet hope is kindled where  
justice is done,  
mercy is nurtured and  
peace is begun.
4. Advent goes on till the  
promised dawn breaks,  
tyrants are toppled, and  
God's dream awakes.  
Hope is perfected and  
faith is made sight.  
Love is our centre and  
Christ is our light.

**Benediction**

Take time, in the busyness of this season, for quiet reflection—  
For the light of God's love is discernible everywhere.

**We will let ourselves be surprised by wonder,  
And set aside time to offer quiet thanks.**

The good news of Advent is this:  
Christ is coming. Christ is always coming.

**We will welcome Christ into our hearts.  
We will let ourselves be guided by his ministry.  
We will go forth from this place in hope.**

## **Closing karakia:**

Kia tau ki a tātou katoa

Te atawhai o tō tātou Ariki, a Ihu  
Karaiti

Me te aroha o te Atua

Me te whiwhingatahitanga

Ki te wairua tapu

Ake, ake, ake

Amine

## **Translation**

*May the grace of the Lord Jesus  
Christ,*

*and the love of God,*

*and the fellowship of the Holy  
Spirit be with you all*

*Forever and ever*

*Amen*

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## ***Acknowledgements:***

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