

Advent 1997: Full of Grace

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Seekers Church:

A Christian Community

In the Tradition of the Church of the Saviour

Advent 1997

Full of Grace

SILENT REFLECTION

I am Silent...and Expectant

How silently,
how silently
the wondrous gift is given.
I would be silent now,
and expectant...
that I may receive
the gift I need,
so I may become
the gifts others need.
Ted Loder, *Guerillas of
Grace*. pg. 132

After Annunciation

This is the irrational season
when love blooms bright and
wild.
Had Mary been filled with
reason
there'd have been no room for
the child.
Madeline L'Engle: *Cry Like a
Bell*. pg. 58

PRELUDE

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader

The days grow short,
and all creation groans with expectation.

People

We hear the cry of the prophets,
the greeting of the angel,
and wonder.

The spirit of God is upon us
and we proclaim the good news:

Unison

The One who calls us is faithful.
Nothing is impossible with God!

INVOCATION

HYMN

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

SILENCE

LITANY OF GRACE

Leader

We watch the wars drag on
in Bosnia, Cambodia and the Middle East.

People

Giver of the Spirit,
our world waits for your peace,
for your pardon,
for your grace.

Leader

We ignore the poverty,
the racism,
the violence in the world around us.

People

Giver of the Spirit,
our world waits for your peace,
for your pardon,
for your grace.

Leader

We feel a deep hunger
for your promised gift to the world.

Unison

Giver of the Spirit,
our world waits for your peace,
for your pardon,
for your grace.

SILENCE

PRAYERS

COMMON CONFESSION

Leader

Holy One, we know our transgression,
and our sin is ever before us.

Cantor

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

People

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE

Leader:

According to God's abundant mercy,
the Holy One will blot out our transgressions.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

HYMN

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

SILENCE

GOSPEL LESSON

SERMON

SILENT REFLECTION

The first Sunday of each month we switch to a Communion Liturgy here.

OFFERING

SHARED REFLECTIONS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

BENEDICTION

Leader:

O God for whom we long
as a woman in labor longs for her delivery;
give us courage to wait,
strength to push,
and discernment to know the right time;
that we might each bring into the world
your joyful peace through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Janet Morley, *Invitations: God's Calling for Everyone*, pg. 138