



Apocalypse Again, Jan Richardson

**ORDER OF WORSHIP 11-29-2020
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

PRELUDE

Carl Braden

WELCOME

Pastor Jackie Hannan

INTROIT

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Carrie Willis

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Jackie Hannan

In every Season of Life,

God is always with us, even when we believe otherwise.

In this season of waiting,

Jesus reminds us that Bethlehem is the beginning of our discipleship, not the end of the journey.

In this season of Advent anticipation and hope,

The Spirit opens our ears to the songs of the angels.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor Jackie Hannan

In this season of hope, joy, love, and peace – how often do people receive these gifts from us?

As we begin our journey through Advent, let us put down those failures and foolish behaviors which keep us from living in Christ.

Join me as we pray together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Responsive Prayer of Forgiveness*)

Holy God, of Advent, you come near to us, yet we continue to seal our hearts with indifference to a suffering world.

Tear open our hearts, and make us more compassionate

You approach us with abundant mercy to kindle our hope, but we continue to build our lives with bitterness.

Tear open our anger, so we might become more forgiving.

You draw near, longing to embrace us, but we fold our arms, closing ourselves off from those around us.

Tear open our souls, so we might become children of Advent.

God of our lives, have mercy.

Jesus, the Word, fill us with grace.

Holy Spirit, the giver of the light and peace; shine through our lives.

Silently pray your personal prayers of Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Jackie Hannan

Even now, God approaches us, with mercy transcending anger, hope overcoming despair, life triumphing over death. This is good news my friends, this is news of great joy for each of us.

Enriched in every grace, blessed with joy and hope, transformed by love, we will live as people of Advent. Thanks be to God. Amen.

PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor Jackie Hannan

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of Our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you!

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Pastor Jackie Hannan

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 64:1-9

Pastor Jackie Hannan

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! ³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. ⁵You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. ⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. ⁸Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

ANTHEM

“Mary Did You Know”

Carrie Willis

GOSPEL READING

Mark 13:24-37

Pastor Jackie Hannan

²⁴“But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. ²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

SERMON

“Is it, ‘Those Days’”

Pastor Jackie Hannan

OFFERTORY

Carl Braden

DOXOLOGY

Congregation

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;
for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

HYMN NO. 357

“The Days Are Surely Coming”

Congregation

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor Jackie Hannan

CLOSING RESPONSE

“My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout”

Congregation

**My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great.
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant’s plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
So, from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?
My heart shall sing of the day you bring,
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near
And the world is about to turn.**