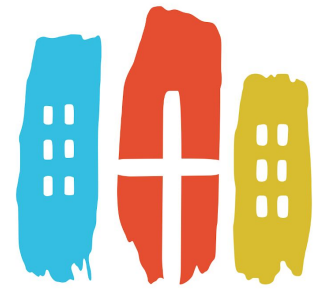


**First Sunday of Advent**  
**December 2, 2018**



**LOOP CHURCH**  
C H I C A G O

Advent means “coming.” The Advent season celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ and the anticipation of his return.

Advent symbolizes the spiritual journey of God’s people as we affirm that Christ has come, that he is present in the world today, and that he will come again in power.

The sanctuary color for Advent is purple, the color of royalty. It is also the color of suffering used during Lent, pointing us to an important connection between Jesus’ birth and death.

The purpose of Jesus’ coming into the world and dwelling among us is to reveal God’s grace to the world through Jesus’ life and teaching, as well as his suffering, death, and resurrection.

**Welcome to our worship service at Loop Church! Our Purpose** - As followers of Jesus Christ we bless our neighbors in Chicago and beyond by welcoming the presence and love of God into our lives such that it overflows to those around us. This happens as we engage in spiritual practices, live out our community values, and engage in acts of love and service.

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING - HOLY SPIRIT, CREATOR AND MOVER

Leader: In the beginning, God created the heavens and earth—all you see, all you don't see.

Earth was a soup of nothingness, a bottomless emptiness, an inky blackness.

**People: God's Spirit brooded like a bird above the watery abyss.**

Leader: By the word of the Lord the heavens were made.

**People: And all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.**

Leader: You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; you renew the face of the earth.

**People: Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand,  
measured heaven with a span, and calculated the dust of the earth in a  
measure?**

**Who has weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?**

**Who has directed the Spirit of the Lord?**

Leader: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

He was with God in the beginning.

Through him all things were made;

without him nothing was made that has been made.

**People: The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood.**

**We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory,  
like Father, like Son, generous inside and out, true from start to finish.**

Leader: God gives this world many ways to know him.

**People: The creation shows his power and majesty.**

Leader: He speaks through prophets, poets, and apostles,  
and, most eloquently, through the Son.

**People: The Spirit, active from the beginning of creation,  
prepared the world for his coming—  
and even now moves among us to understand the Word of God,  
open our hearts to God's voice, and prepare the way for the Lord's return.  
Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly!**

**Gathering Song:** My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

LUYH 69

## GOD GREETUS US - WE RESPOND BY GREETING ONE ANOTHER

Pastor: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: As God has greeted us, let's now turn and greet one another.

# **WE ARE CALLED TO RECONCILIATION WITH GOD AND ONE ANOTHER**

## **Prayer of Confession and Assurance**

**An Advent Lament** (responsive reading)

LUYH 62

## **MEAL**

## **Message**

## **Discussion / Questions / Responses**

**Song of Reflection**     Comfort, Comfort Now My People

LUYH 59

**PRAYER** (At tables at conclusion of discussion time)

## **GOD SENDS US OUT INTO THE WORLD**

## **Benediction**

**Sending Song:**     Dona Nobis Pacem

LUYH 73

## **This week's lectionary readings:**

Old Testament: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalm: Psalm 25:1-9

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

## Contact Us

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Ministry Coordinator Jim Bosman - [jim@loopchurch.org](mailto:jim@loopchurch.org)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Interested in Volunteering or Submitting an Announcement?** Talk to Jim Bosman after the service or send him an email at [jim@loopchurch.org](mailto:jim@loopchurch.org)

**Plan on it!** Loop Christmas party at home of Mona and Kevin VanKanegan, 727 W Liberty. Bring something (food or drink) to share and be prepared to sing carols. December 22, 7:00 PM.

### Calendar:

Date	Event	Time	Location
Tue, Nov 20	<i>Welcoming the Stranger MC</i>		
Fri, Nov 23	<i>Environmental Issues MC</i>		
Sun, Dec 2	<i>Brunch Sunday</i>	10:00 - 11:30	11 E Adams
Thu, Dec 6	<i>Anti-Racism MC</i>		
Tue, Dec 18	<i>Welcoming the Stranger MC</i>		
Thu, Dec 20	Steering Council Meeting	6:30 - 8:30 PM	11 E Adams
Sat. Dec 22	<i>Christmas Party</i>	7:00 PM	Home of Mona & Kevin
Fri, Dec 28	<i>Environmental Issues MC</i>		

### Sunday Schedule:

Date	Dec 2	Dec 9	Dec 16	Dec 23	Dec 23
<b>Set Up</b>	Kevin & Mona	Jim & Mary	Peter & Silvia	Kevin & Mona	Tim & Lexi
<b>Take Down</b>	Ginny & Charlene	Jim & Mary	Kevin & Mona	Tim & Lexi	Peter & Silvia
<b>Greeter 1</b>	Mary	Joseph	Kevin	Lexi	Silvia
<b>Greeter 2</b>	Jim	Kelley	Mona	Janna	Peter
<b>Refreshments</b>	Brunch	Tracey	Janna	Mary	Kelley
<b>Nursery</b>	-----	--- /Briana	--- /Kayla	--- /Rae	--- /Naomi
<b>Lead Elder</b>	JB	Kevin	Claire	Debbie	JB

**Offering Update:** Nov 25: Gen Fund \$1225.00 FYTD: \$46,824.00