



Sunday Bulletin

Glorify God by loving Christ, loving one another and reaching the world.

Issue 48: November 28, 2021



Advent - The Season of Hope, Faith, Joy & Peace

Dear Friends,

Starting on November 28th and ending with Christmas eve is the Advent season. Advent is a time of preparation for our hearts and minds as we look forward to our Savior's birth. With the coming of the Advent we will be light a new candle each week up until Christmas Eve when we light all five candles. **What do these candles symbolize?**

The **first candle**, which is purple, symbolizes **hope**. It is sometimes called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

The **second candle**, also purple, represents **faith**. It is called the "Bethlehem Candle" as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

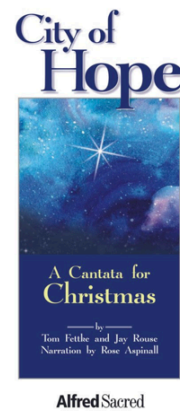
The **third candle** is pink and symbolizes **joy**. It is called the "Shepherd's Candle," and is pink because rose is a liturgical color for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

On the fourth week of Advent, we light the **final purple candle** to mark the final week of prayer as we wait for the **birth of our Saviour**. This final candle, the "Angel's Candle," symbolizes peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels: **"Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."**

The **white candle** is placed in the middle of the wreath and lit on Christmas Eve. This candle is called the **"Christ Candle"** and represents the life of Christ. The color white is for purity—because Christ is our sinless, pure Saviour.

Blessings,

Pastor Joel



On December 26th, the AIC musicians will be performing a Christmas Cantata during the Sunday Service. There will be no children's ministry or discipleship classes that day. However, the nursery will be available. The service will start at 10:45 AM as usual. See you there!

Worship Through Giving

A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed. Proverbs 11:25

To support AIC ministries, please help us meet this year's budget.

For giving, you may transfer online to our HSBC Account: 012-184 255-838 Alliance International Church or send a cheque to the church office – 21 Tak Fung Street, Whampoa.

If time is not a concern, you can always stop by the AIC office. Come say hello, Tuesday to Friday 9:30-17:00. We will love to see you!

Donation to AIC is tax-deductible, if you need a receipt, email Dorie at dorie@aic.org.hk

FINANCE

Adult (Sat/Sun) & Children Attendance: 185

General Fund: \$13,415.60
Budget/week: \$84,616.00
Missions & Others: \$4,000.00

General Fund & Other Income:
April 2021 to present \$2,052,840.22
Budget for April 2021 to present: \$2,876,944.00
Budget deficit April 2021 to present: \$824,103.78



HOTEL QUARANTINE MINISTRY

If you know someone coming to work in Hong Kong for the first time, do let us know. We will be happy to be of help! Email: dorie@aic.org.hk

The Alliance Filipino Fellowship has been serving domestic helpers from the Philippines who are undergoing quarantine in designated facilities. The fellowship partners with eight other Filipino churches in Hong Kong, as well as Kabayan Radio Hong Kong, and provides welcome kits to the helpers who are serving their 21-day quarantine in Silka Tsuen Wan Hotel or Penny's Bay Quarantine Centre on Lantau Island. The kit includes masks, hand sanitiser, a SIM card, snacks, a New Testament Bible and devotional material Our Daily Bread. Those helpers are also under follow-up through text messages after they have received those kits.

Since the ministry began in March, AFF was privileged to be part of the HQM team who had helped many incoming Filipino domestic workers. The fellowship prays that connection with those helpers could be continued and they could share with them the love of Christ in person.

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