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## HOPE: THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*By: Reverend Corwin Malcolm Davis*

**LEADER:** “The days are surely coming,” says the Lord, “when I will fulfill the promise...” The season of Advent beckons us to turn our attention to the coming, to the expectation, to the waiting.

**RESPONSE:** To you, O Lord, we lift up our soul. In you we put our hope; do not let us be put to shame.

**LEADER:** God tells us that we will be able to read the signs, that indeed all of creation will join in the expectation. Help us, Lord, to hope alongside all of the created world for redemption and restoration.

**RESPONSE:** To you, O Lord, we lift up our soul. In you we put our hope; do not let us be put to shame.

**LEADER:** Let us stay alert. Let us pay attention. Let us wait, not like others who have no hope. But let us work in our waiting.

*Light one purple candle.*

**ALL:** We light the candle of hope, and remember our commitment to hope as a practice. Hope is sustaining us, and we combine our works with our faith in this season of expectation. Amen.