



**INTROIT**

*"Because of Who You Are"*

Inglewood First Music

**WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER**

Gina Williams  
*Liturgist*

*God of glory, your power darkens the skies and causes the moon to grow dim.  
When we scatter to the four winds, gather us from the ends of the earth and restore us as your people.  
Awaken us from slumber, that we may be found ready when the master of the house returns. Amen.*

**OPENING HYMN**

*"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"*

Hymnal #196

**SCRIPTURE READING**

*Mark 13:28-31*  
*Common English Bible*

*28 "Learn this parable from the fig tree. After its branch becomes tender and it sprouts new leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 In the same way, when you see these things happening, you know that he's near, at the door. 30 I assure you that this generation won't pass away until all these things happen. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will certainly not pass away.*

**MESSAGE**

***"Ready for the World to Change"***

Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin

**HANGING OF THE GREENS**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: HOPE**

**Reader 1:** *In the days of exile and uncertainty, the prophet Isaiah cried out: O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence. As when fire sets wigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you. (Isaiah 64:1-3)*

**Reader 2:** *In the midst of our own encounters with uncertainty and upheaval and our longing for deliverance, Jesus calls to us, "Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come" (Mark 13:35).*

**Congregation:** *We wait as people are surprised again and again by God who shakes us out of our complacency and wakes us up to the work of the reign all around us.*

**Reader 1:** *We light this candle as a sign of our shocking hope. May we stay awake to God's activity in the world as we wait in expectation that even now God is with us, working to restore us to the fullness of life with God and one another. Amen.*

***Light the first candle of the Advent wreath.***

**ADVENT CANDLE SONG**

Inglewood First Music

*Light the Advent candle one  
Now the waiting has begun  
We have started on our way  
Time to think of Christmas day.*

## **Chorus**

*Candle candle burning bright  
Shining in the cold winter night  
Candle candle burning bright  
Fill our hearts with Christmas light*

## **SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin

## **COMMUNION SONG**

*“Speak to My Heart”*

Inglewood First Music

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Gina Williams

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

Inglewood First Music



**TODAY IN WORSHIP:** Bravo Maintenance; Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin, *Lead Pastor*; Risa Wheat, *Worship Chairperson*; Sam Reid, *Pianist*; Tre' Cyrus-Franklin, *Percussion*; Tony Greene, *Sound Tech*; Tuutanga Tuihalamaka, *Video Tech*; Gina Williams, *Liturgist*

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## **4 WAYS TO GIVE:**

- (1) **Mail:** Send to *Inglewood First UMC, 304 E Spruce Ave, Inglewood, CA 90301*
  - (2) **Online:** [www.inglewoodfirst.org/give](http://www.inglewoodfirst.org/give) or
  - (3) **Text-to-Give:** *Text an amount to 84321!*
  - (4) **Download the Church App** at [www.inglewoodfirst.org/app](http://www.inglewoodfirst.org/app)
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**ALTAR FLOWERS | *In Memory of Loved Ones, Given by Jean Pryor and Family***

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**COMING UP @ INGLEWOOD FIRST UMC / [inglewoodfirst.org/calendar](http://inglewoodfirst.org/calendar)**

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- **Zoom Bible Study** | Tuesdays @ 12 pm & 7 pm | Sign up at [inglewoodfirst.org/biblestudy](http://inglewoodfirst.org/biblestudy)
  - **Charge Conference** | Saturday, December 9th @ 10:00 am
  - **Christmas Service** | Sunday, December 24th @ 3:00 pm
  - **Selah Sunday** | December 31st (No Worship Service)
  - **We're on our Journey to Build Affordable Housing!** Updates @ [inglewoodfirst.org/housing](http://inglewoodfirst.org/housing).
  - **The Listening. (music sharing group)** | [www.inglewoodfirst.org/thelistening](http://www.inglewoodfirst.org/thelistening)
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**CONGREGATIONAL CARE | *Submit prayer requests at [inglewoodfirst.org/prayer](http://inglewoodfirst.org/prayer).***

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**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS** | Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin 12/5, Tre Cyrus-Franklin 12/5, Manu Tu'uholoaki-Murrin 12/7, Frank Baker 12/8, Marjorie Porchia 12/14, Gina Williams 12/15, Melisa Arnold 12/20, Halaevalu Tu'uholoaki 12/20, Patricia Thomas 12/23, Delmas Arnold 12/25, Rokyia Ferguson 12/26, Charlene Bright 12/28

**PRAYER LIST** | For Ceasefire in Israel & Palestine • Soto-Mack Family • Houseless Neighbors • Elethea Cunningham & Family • Lahaina, Maui Community • Wendy Reynolds & Family • John Cohill & Family • Jean Pryor • Toni Ravens • Siosiu Tupou & Family • Elizabeth Payne • Elva Herrera • Samuel Howell & Family • Affordable Housing Project • Della Greene & Anthony Greene • Stephanie Starr