



A Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols

December 8, 2024 | 9:00am

The Annunciation of Our Lady Episcopal Church
5725 Stearns School Road, Gurnee, Illinois
(847) 336-3730 | annunciationgurnee.org

Welcome to Annunciation

Before Worship

We ask that conversations and greetings before the worship service happen in the Narthex. We try to keep the Nave as a space for quiet prayer and contemplation as we enter into worship.

What's Happening

The bulletin is your guide to everything happening in our parish. It contains everything you need to fully participate in the service. Some of the music we will sing can be found here in the bulletin or the Red or Blue hymnal in your pew.

Receiving Communion

- *You're Invited: This is Jesus' table; he made no restrictions, and neither do we.*
- *Host: Our communion is by bread or wafer. The priest or deacon will place the sacrament in your hand.*
- *Wine: You are invited to receive the wine by the common cup, either by sipping (please guide the chalice with your hand) or by intinction (dipping the wafer in the wine).*
- *If you would like to receive in the single-serving cups, a Eucharistic Minister will have a tray of cups by the right ambulatory.*
- *Gluten-free wafers are available. Ask the priest for one when you come up.*
- *Healing Prayer: If you would like someone to pray for you for healing of mind, body, or spirit, you're invited to go to the side chapel at any time during Communion.*

Hospitality

After the service, please enjoy good food, coffee, and conversation in the Parish Hall.

Let's Get Connected!

We want to get to know you better and tell you more about our community. Please fill in a Newcomer Card, available at the Communications Center near the main entrance.

Children

We welcome children to participate fully, and we do not expect them to be perfectly quiet. If your child needs a break, feel free to bring them to the

Narthex (lobby) or make use of our Nursery: take a left as you exit the worship space, down the hall.

Restrooms

The main restrooms are off the Parish Hall, to your right as you exit the worship space. A gender-neutral restroom is located to your left as you exit the worship space, down the hall.

Wheelchair Accommodations

There are wheelchair-friendly spaces in the pews, on the outside aisles. Accessible restroom stalls are in the main restrooms off the Parish Hall, to your right as you exit the worship space.

Hearing Assistance

Hearing devices are located on the table near the main entrance. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Online Worship

We record and broadcast our services via Zoom. You can find the link to the Zoom on our electronic Parish News.

Additionally, if you are not comfortable or do not consent to your image being shown on our broadcast, we encourage you to be aware of the camera and ask you to consider taking a seat behind the camera on the left side of the Nave.

Streaming to Facebook Live

If you aren't able to join us for our in person service, the video will be available at:

<https://www.facebook.com/annunciatingurnee/live/>

You do not have to have a Facebook account to view the video.

In-person, indoor worship

- If you are not feeling well, please stay home.
- **Masks are optional inside. Please gauge your own continuum of safety.**

Please ask an usher or worship leader for assistance with anything you need.

An Advent Festival of Lessons & Carols

Prelude Lighting of the Advent Wreath

A Reflection on Rejoicing

I walk out onto the deck of my cottage,
looking up at the great river of the Milky Way
flowing across the sky
...A sky full of God's children!
Each galaxy, each star,
each living creature,
every particle and subatomic particle of
creation,
we are all children of the Maker ...

Was there a moment,
known only to God,
when all the stars held their breath,
when the galaxies paused in their dance

for a fraction of a second,
and the Word,
who had called it all into being,
went with all his love into the womb of a
young girl,
and the universe started to breathe again,
and the ancient harmonies resumed their
song,
and the angels clapped their hands for joy?

...I stand on the deck of my cottage,
looking at the sky full of God's children,
and know that I am one of them.

from *Bright Evening Star*
by Madeleine L'Engle, author of *A Wrinkle in Time*

Processional Hymn

Please stand, as able, to sing:
There's a voice in the wilderness crying
#75, The Hymnal 1982

The Bidding Prayer

Celebrant: Beloved in Christ, in this season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, to see the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by his holy Child; and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those

who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

The Almighty God + bless us with his grace;
Christ give us the joys of everlasting life;
and unto the fellowship of the citizens above
may the King of Angels bring us all.

People: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The First Lesson

Reader: Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid, that she has received
from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare
the way of the Lord, make straight in the
desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up, and every
mountain and hill be made low; the uneven
ground shall become level, and the rough
places a plain.
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together, for the
mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!'
And I said, 'What shall I cry?'
All people are grass, their constancy is like the
flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades, when the
breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the
people are grass.
The grass withers, the flower fades; but the
word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald
of good tidings; lift up your voice with
strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah,
'Here is your God!'
See, the Lord God comes with might, and his
arm rules for him; his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry
them in his bosom, and gently lead the
mother sheep.
Isaiah 40:1-11

The Carol

*All stand, as able, and sing:
Prepare the way, O Zion
#65, The Hymnal 1982*

The Second Lesson

Reader: Look towards the east, O Jerusalem,
and see the joy that is coming to you
from God.

Look, your children are coming, whom you
sent away; they are coming, gathered
from east and west, at the word of the
Holy One, rejoicing in the glory of God.

Take off the garment of your sorrow and
affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on for
ever the beauty of the glory from God.

Put on the robe of the righteousness that
comes from God; put on your head the
diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;
for God will show your splendor
everywhere under heaven.

For God will give you evermore the name,
'Righteous Peace, Godly Glory.'

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height;
look towards the east, and see your
children gathered from west and east at
the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that
God has remembered them.

For they went out from you on foot, led away
by their enemies; but God will bring them
back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal
throne.

For God has ordered that every high mountain
and the everlasting hills be made low and
the valleys filled up, to make level round,
so that Israel may walk safely in the glory
of God.

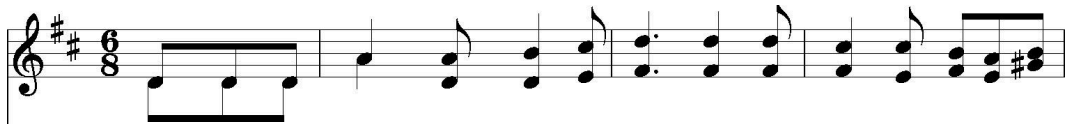
The woods and every fragrant tree have haded
Israel at God's command.

For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of
his glory, with the mercy and
righteousness that come from him.

Baruch 4:36-5:9

The Carol

*All stand, as able, and sing:
#724 People, Look East
Wonder, Love, and Praise*



1. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the crown-ing of the
2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is plant - ed
3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be
4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall
5. An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to



1. year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the hearth and set the
2. there: give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, that in course the flow'r may
3. filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen God for fledg - ling time has
4. brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, bright as sun and moon to -
5. earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming with the word, the Lord is



1. ta - ble. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the guest is on the way.
2. flour-ish. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the rose is on the way.
3. cho - sen. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the bird is on the way.
4. geth - er. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the star is on the way.
5. com - ing. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the Lord is on the way.



The Third Lesson

Reader: Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!
The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies.
The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.

The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.
I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.
Zephaniah 3:14-18

The Carol

All stand, as able, and sing:
Rejoice! Rejoice believers
#68, The Hymnal 1982

The Fourth Lesson

Reader: This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary, his mother, was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband was a righteous man. Because he didn't want to humiliate her, he decided to call off their engagement quietly. As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the child she carries was conceived by the Holy Spirit. She

will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Now all of this took place so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled:

Look! A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son,
And they will call him, Emmanuel.

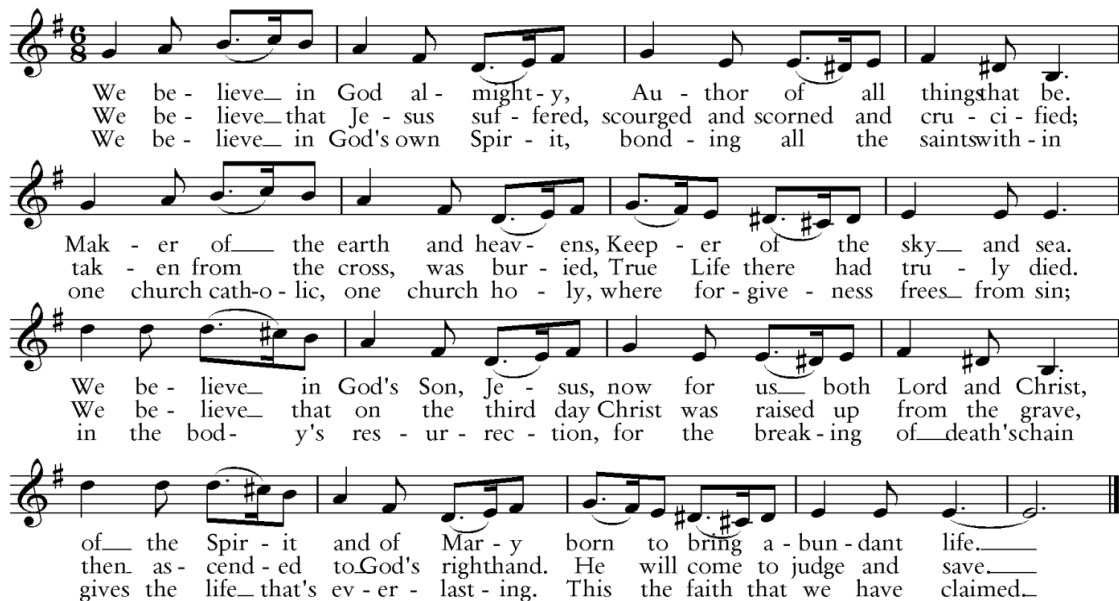
Matthew 1:18-23

The Carol

All stand, as able, and sing:
Comfort, comfort ye my people
#67, The Hymnal 1982

The Creed

All remain standing and sing:



We be - lieve_ in God al - might - y, Au - thor of all things that be.
We be - lieve_ that Je - sus suf - fered, scourged and scorned and cru - ci - fied;
We be - lieve_ in God's own Spir - it, bond - ing all the saints with - in

Mak - er of_ the earth and heav - ens, Keep - er of_ the sky_ and sea.
tak - en from_ the cross, was bur - ied, True Life there had tru - ly died.
one church cath - o - lic, one church ho - ly, where for - give - ness frees_ from sin;

We be - lieve_ in God's Son, Je - sus, now for us_ both Lord and Christ,
We be - lieve_ that on the third day Christ was raised up from the grave,
in the bod - y's res - ur - rec - tion, for the break - ing of_ death's chain

of_ the Spir - it and of Mar - y born to bring a - bun - dant life._
then as - cend - ed to God's righthand. He will come to judge and save_
gives the life_ that's ev - er - last - ing. This the faith that we have claimed_

The Prayers of the People

Leader: Wherever we are, in the wilderness, the countryside, or the city, God, you are there. That our hearts may be stirred up in thanksgiving for the life you have given us, let us pray, saying: Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

Leader: For the gifts of creation, for the sun that lights our day and the moon and stars that shelter the night: May our eyes be open to the beauty around us, the subtle changes in the sky, the delicate coating of soil from which breaks forth our food and flowers and in which animals make their home. Help us to protect and nurture your creation around us and ever proclaim its wonders. Lord, in our mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For the church in every place: May we be ever mindful of the richness of the family of the church, the persons next to us in the pew, those in neighborhood churches, the national, international, and ecumenical church of every race, nation and economic circumstance. Let us give thanks for the web of friendship and trust that you give to those who are called the friends of Christ. This morning we pray for Fort Dauphin in the Diocese of Toliara, the Diocese of Renk, the Diocese of Southeastern Mexico, and the Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan. Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For those in authority: Let us pray for Christians who witness in places hostile to the gospel, and let us be thankful for our freedom to practice our faith. Let us pray for the leaders of nations that Christ may transform strangers into friends that all may see your salvation. Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For this community in our joys and sorrows: Let us remember those who have gone before us, those who have sacrificed for us. Help us to look for what is below the obvious, and from this depth to reach out to others. Help us to know the joy that is mingled even with our utmost grief. Let us give thanks for this gathering of God's people and for the renewal of life we are given. This morning we remember **John King** (12/14/2010) and **Elizabeth Potochnick** (12/18/2018). Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For those at greatest risk among us: Let us pray for those lonely, rejected, or oppressed, for the sick and those who struggle to regain their strength, for those among us with the longest memories to link us to the past, and for the newborn, in whose baptism our baptism is again renewed. Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: This morning we pray for: **Bishop Samy and Venerable Canon Donne; the peace of Jerusalem, for the victims of gun violence; the people served by Sunrise Assisted Living, PADS**

and the Community Meal program, for those in war-torn places, especially Congo, Sudan, Haiti, Ukraine, Gaza and Israel, for our Scouts and leaders, Lisa, Kim, Cherry, Tristan, Karen, Jon, Barb, Judy, Benji, Edward, Nirmala, Jaxson, Greg, Isabell, Debbie, Mark, Jill, Rebecca, Gavin, Dylan, Karen, John, Matt, Dan, Walter, Frank, Linda, Stacy, Jerry; A.S., Fiakira, Romainia, Norbert, Erica, Elitsiana.

Leader: O God, our times are in your hand: look with favor, we pray, on your servants **Maurice** Edwards (12/11), **Skylar** Hucker (12/12), **Logan** Hucker (12/12), **Ember** Hagan (12/13), and **Marshall** Hucker (12/13) as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in you all the days of their lives. Lord, in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Those celebrating anniversaries, birthdays, or in need of traveling mercies are invited to the Altar.

Celebrant: Lord, gather up our prayers with those of all your people in every place, and as you prepare the way, making every valley filled and every mountain brought low in blessing and adoration, guide us to Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

Sending Forth of Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant: Hear us, O heavenly Father, and with your Word and Holy Spirit bless and sanctify this bread and wine that it, also, may be the Sacrament of the precious Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who took bread and the cup and said, "This is my Body and Blood."

People: **Amen.**

Deacon: You have been entrusted with the sacraments of the church. Go and share these signs of our community with those who are unable to be a part of our gathering, and assure them that they are in our prayers. May you bring peace to these places that welcome you.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

After you have greeted others, please have a seat.

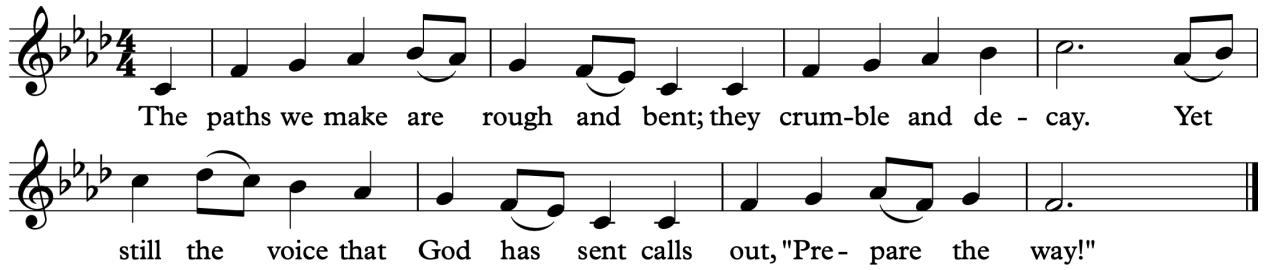
Offertory Hymn

#686, *The Hymnal 1982*
Come thou font of every blessing

Presentation Hymn

Tune: Morning Song | Text: Adam Tice

*Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings to the altar.
Please stand, as able, and sing:*



The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them to the Lord.*

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: *It is right to give God thanks and praise.*

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S-124, The Hymnal 1982

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People: *We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;*

Celebrant: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People: *Amen!*

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

People: *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 trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,
 for ever and ever. Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

People: *Therefore let us keep the feast.*

Communion Hymn

#11, *LEVAS II*
Prepare the Way of the Lord

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

People: *Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for*

ever. Amen.

Blessing

Celebrant: May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the shadows from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, mother of us all, be among you, and remain with you always.

People: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

#367, *The Hymnal 1982*
Joyful, joyful we adore thee

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Worship Ministers

<i>Crucifer/Acolyte</i>	Brother Dunstan, OLW	<i>Ushers</i>	Carol Anderson and Andrea Lindblad
<i>Readers</i>	Jennifer Edwards, Miriam Berry, Chris Schrantz	<i>Sunrise Minister</i>	Linda Lutter and Steve Kublis
<i>Prayers</i>	Steve Kublis	<i>Digital Verger</i>	Charles O'Morchoe
<i>Euch. Minister</i>	Brother Dunstan and Carol Anderson	<i>Altar Guild</i>	Pam Myers
<i>Healing Minister</i>	Tom Crafton	<i>Musicians</i>	Elaine and Ron O'Neil

Staff & Leadership

Rector
The Rev. Jenni Liem
rector@annunciationgurnee.org

Deacon
The Rev. Anne Smith
deacon.annunciation@gmail.com

Wardens
Charles O'Morchoe and Andrea Lindblad

Vestry
Terry Kline, Kim Fulton, Carl Gruber, Chris Schrantz, Leanne Ulmer

Clerk of the Vestry
Bob Coates
Treasurer
Elaine O'Neil
treasurer@annunciationgurnee.org



Annunciation
of Our Lady
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Annunciation is a place..

To be included

To be honest

To be challenged

To be empowered

To find hope