

Sunday December 8, 2024,
Advent Two
We Gather to Celebrate God's Presence

Welcome
Family Life and Work
Family Celebrations
Lighting of the Christ Candle:

Advent Candle Lighting:

On this second Sunday of Advent, we come in peace as a community of faith.

We watch, we wait, we wonder.

Let peace begin with us. In every breath we take, may we live in the peace of God's promise to be with us always.

We wait for Jesus, the Prince of Peace, to come into the world.

As we light the second candle in our wreath, we take a moment to breathe in the Spirit of peace. Let us pray:

God of peace, on this second Sunday of Advent, may you fill us with the peace that only you can bring. Help us to live each moment in peace with one another. Amen.

Hope is a Star

VU 7 vs 2

**Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,
giving a promise of safety and worth.**

**When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.**

Acknowledgement of the Land:

Hymn: See amid the Winter's Snow

VU 76 vs 1&2

**1 See amid the winter's snow,
born for us on earth below,
see, the tender Lamb appears,
promised from eternal years.**

**Hail, thou ever-blessed morn;
hail, redemption's happy dawn;
sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

2 Lo, within a manger lies

**God who built the starry skies,
who enthroned in height sublime
sits amid the cherubim.**

**Hail, thou ever-blessed morn;
hail, redemption's happy dawn;
sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Carol: Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent 4thc. Trad. Arr by Joel Ramsey

Lesson 1: Isaiah 40: 1 – 4 Comfort for God's People.

Carol: What Sweeter Music by Robert Herrick and John Rutter

Lesson 2: Isaiah 9: 2, 5-6 Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah

Carol: O Night of Nights arr. By Robert C Lau

Lesson 3: Isaiah 11: 1-4,6 The Branch from Jesse

Hymn: People Look East VU 9 vs 1 & 2

**1 People, look east. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love the guest is on the way.**

**2 Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there:
give up your strength the seed to nourish,
that in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love the rose is on the way.**

Carol: Not That Far from Bethlehem by Borders, Borders & Alexander

Lesson 4: Micah 5: 2 – 4 Micah prophesies Bethlehem as Jesus' birthplace.

Carol: Song for a Winter's Night Words and music by Gordon Lightfoot

Lesson 5: John 1: 19-23

John the Baptist announces the coming of the Lord

Hymn: In the Bleak Midwinter

VU 55 vs 1 & 4

**1 In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.**

**4 What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him - give my heart.**

Lesson 6: Matthew 1: 18 – 24

St. Matthew tells of the Birth of Christ.

Carol: A Little Light Was Born

words and music by Michael Barrett

The Work of the Church

Carol: On This Holy Night

by Bob Bruer (2004) incorporating 'O Holy Night by Adolphe Adams (1847)

Lesson 7: Luke 2: 1 – 20

The shepherds go to the manger

Hymn: What Child is This?

VU 74 vs 1 & 2

1 What child is this, who laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the Babe, the Son of Mary!

2 Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.

This, this is Christ the King,

whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the Babe, the Son of Mary!

Carol: Scottish Worship Carol

arr by Pepper Choplin

Lesson 8: Matthew 2:; 1 – 12

The Wisemen are led by the star to Jesus

Offertory: All Poor Ones and Humble

VU 68 vs 1

**1 All poor ones and humble and all those who stumble,
come hastening, and feel not afraid;
for Jesus, our treasure, with love past all measure,
in lowly poor manger was laid.
Though wise men who found him
laid rich gifts around him,
yet oxen they gave him their hay,
and Jesus in beauty accepted their duty;
contented in manger he lay.**

**Then haste we to show him the praises we owe him;
our service he ne'er can despise;
whose love still is able to show us that stable,
where softly in manger he lies.**

Offertory Prayer

Carol: Night of the Father's Love

Gruber, Prudentius & Choplin

Lesson 9: John 1: 1 – 14

St. John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.

Carol: A Very Merry Madrigal

by Douglas Wagner

Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful

VU 60 vs 1,2,3,

**1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:
come and behold him, born the King of angels;

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

**2 God of God, light of light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;**

very God, begotten, not created: R

**3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God in the highest: R**

Blessing and Benedictions

Choral Benediction: Go Now in Peace

VU 964

**Go now in peace, go now in peace,
May the love of God surround you everywhere,
Everywhere you may go.**