

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2017

Theme: "Striving to be Found at Peace by the coming Messiah"

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF THE KING

Gathering Song: **O come, O come** Trad, Arr. Ben Shive & Brown Bannister

O come O come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

O come Thou rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny
From depths of hell Thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel


O come Thou Day-Spring come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight

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Song #7050942

Call to Worship (Inspired by Matthew 3:1-12, Mark 1:3, Isaiah 40:3)

We come to prepare the way;
The way for Christ –
the hope of Christ, the peace of Christ –
to enter our world,
to enter our hearts.
We cry out together in the wilderness:

The kingdom of heaven has come near.
We come to be part of the light—
the light that shines in the darkness.

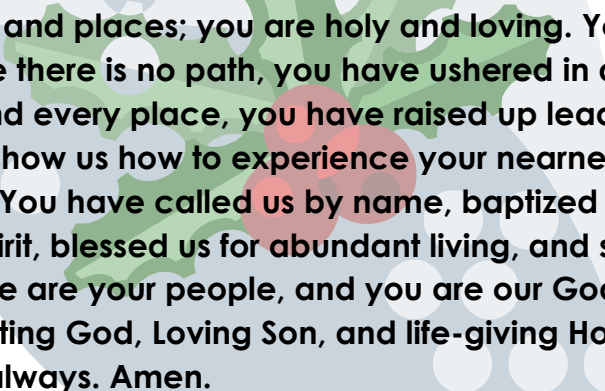
Hymn:  Come, Thou long expected Jesus
#110

God's Greeting (*from 2 Corinthians 13:14*):

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

*We Pass the Peace of Christ to Our Neighbour

Prayer of Adoration



God of all times and places; you are holy and loving. You create pathways where there is no path, you have ushered in a reign of peace. In every time and every place, you have raised up leaders who point to your glory and show us how to experience your nearness and perceive your greatness. You have called us by name, baptized us with water and with the Holy Spirit, blessed us for abundant living, and set us in the world to serve you. We are your people, and you are our God, so we worship you as the Creating God, Loving Son, and life-giving Holy Spirit, one God, now and always. Amen.

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

Hymn of Preparation: **“Hope is a Star”** verse 1

Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.

Refrain:

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.**

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

Refrain:

**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.**

Lighting the Advent Candle – Hope (Jill, Theo and Courtney)

Hymn of Assurance: **“Come Light our Hearts”**

Youth message: “Preparing our Hearts for Jesus”

Scripture: “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’”

Youth Hymn: My Lord He Is A Comin' Soon

**My Lord He is a comin' soon
Prepare ye the way of the Lord
Get ev'rything ready for that day
Prepare ye the way of the Lord**

If you're asleep it's time to wake up
Awake O sleeper arise
If you're in the dark it's time to be lit
Awake O sleeper arise

Chorus

Come Lord Jesus come into my heart
Prepare ye the way of the King
He is coming He's coming soon
Prepare the way of the King

Chorus

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GOD SPEAKS TO US FROM HIS WORD

Prayer for Understanding:

The Reading of Scripture:

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13;
Isaiah 40:1-11

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks, be to God!

Sermon: “A Call to be Ready”

Hymn of Response & Preparation: **“I The Lord of Sea and Sky”** # 592

WE CELEBRATE THE LORD’S SUPPER

The Invitation:

This is the joyful feast of the people of God.
People will come from north, south, east and
west And sit at table in the Kingdom of God.

When our Risen Lord sat at table with his disciples, his friends –
He took the bread and broke it and gave it to them
and their eyes were opened and they recognized him.

Come and see that God is here among us.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
All are welcome at this table.

We affirm our faith in Jesus Christ through the ancient words of the
The Apostles Creed (Bop # 539 or Back of the Psalter)

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Bop # 564

The Lord be with you;
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts;
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God;
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Let us Pray

In the beginning, you spoke and at your word your Spirit moved over the waters, bringing order, light, and life out of chaos. By your hands, you formed our bodies and knit together our inward in your image and breathed breath and life into us. When we turn away from you and our love fails, your love remains constant. You lead us through the deep and chaotic waters and you call us from our scattered lives to unity and peace.

Therefore, we join with choirs of angels and archangels and with the whole creation, to lift our hearts in joyful praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy, mighty and tender God, in time you sent Jesus of Nazareth and in him we saw your promises made flesh. Dwelling among us good news was seen and heard and our world transformed. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. In his suffering, death and resurrection, he delivered us from sin and darkness and revealed a living and redeeming hope for all people. And when he ascended into heaven, your Holy Spirit came to be our Counsellor and Comforter.

And so, remembering Christ's life, love, death, and resurrection, we proclaim the mystery of faith

**Christ was promised.
Christ was born.
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we share may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, world without end.

As Christ taught his disciples we now pray together:

**Our Father.....
Amen.**

Institution of the Bread and Wine

Jesus, in the night in which he was betrayed took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, 'This is my body, which is for you: this do in remembrance of me.'

In the same way he took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood: as often as you drink of it, do this in remembrance of me.'

Sharing of the Bread

Sharing of the Wine

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, we thank you for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Send us into the world in peace for we have seen, have heard, and been fed by your grace. Keep us faithful and alert for signs of Christ's coming and lead us to live lives

marked by truth and light, so that we may eat and drink together in your eternal dominion of hope, peace, joy and love. Amen.

WE BRING OUR GIFTS

Work and Witness of our Church

A Time of Giving

Sung Response: **“Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow”** BoP#79

WE LEAVE TO CONTINUE OUR JOURNEY OF FAITH

The Benediction

Recessional Hymn:

The First Nowell (vs1,2,4,6)

#136

