

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

## The Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 5, 2021

God's Good News Offers Peace for Troubled Times

Gathering Music

J. Noel Lance

Words of Greeting

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Prayer of Submission

Dr. Foust

Song of Peace

*Light the Candle*

Chancel Choir

J. Kevin Gray

Light the candle of peace. Let its glow warm your heart till your soul finds release. May we open our eyes to God's love in full view. Jesus will be born, making all things anew.

Lighting the Candle of Peace

Chip, Lindsay, Parker, & Whit Wilson

ONE: Advent is a season of waiting, but we do not wait alone.

**ALL: God is with us.**

ONE: We gather with those who have seen the signs, heard the whispers, felt the tugs in their hearts.

**ALL: God is birthing peace into the world. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with us. As we worship with hearts open, we receive God's gift of peace as we pursue peace with God.**

### \*Hymn of Advent

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

VENI EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

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.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel!

The Wreaths and Greenery

Natalie Turner

### \*Carol

*The Holly and the Ivy*

Traditional English Carol

The holly and the ivy, when they are both full grown,  
of all trees that are in the wood, the holly bears the crown.

#### *Refrain*

O, the rising of the sun, and the running of the deer,  
the playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.

The holly bears a blossom, as white as lily flower,  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, to be our dear Savior.

#### *Refrain*

## A Moment for Contemplation

In this season, the sights and sounds draw us to focus on external symbols. These symbols point us to God's gift in Jesus, which births within us hope, peace, joy, and love.

### Song

*Peace, Glorious Peace*

by James Kevin Gray

Far away and long ago, was born the one the prophets foretold, and this little babe would change the world by teaching, revealing the truth of God's word. He taught peace, glorious peace, the peace that descends from above. He taught peace, glorious peace, the peace that comes from God's love.

*We invite the children to come down during this song.*

### The Chrismon Trees

Rev. Allison Benfield

#### \*Carol

*O Chrismon Tree*

Traditional German Carol

O Chrismon tree! O Chrismon tree! thy leaves are so unchanging;  
O Chrismon tree! O Chrismon tree! thy leaves are so unchanging;  
not only green when summer's here, but also when 'tis cold and drear. O  
Chrismon tree! O Chrismon tree! thy leaves are so unchanging!

O Chrismon tree! O Chrismon tree! how richly God has decked thee!  
O Chrismon tree! O Chrismon tree! how richly God has decked thee!  
Thou bidst us true and faithful be and trust in God unchangingly.  
O Chrismon tree! O Chrismon tree! how richly God has decked thee!



### The Church at Prayer

Rev. Lee Gray

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

#### Prayer Concerns

Shirley Ballard, Katherine Barr, John Bragg (back surgery in December),  
Betty Fuller, Polly Hull, Barbara Ledford, Tish Philemon, Gene & Carol Poole,  
Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson, Don Swofford, Elma Thomas,  
Dee Turner, Johnathan (J.R.) Mullins

Congratulations to Elizabeth and John Whipple on the birth of their son, Liam McQueen Whipple, on November 28.  
Kayleigh Mac and Jack are the proud big sister and brother, and Gary and Kathy McFarland are the proud grandparents!

Sympathy to the family and friends of Joe Tyner in his passing on November 30.

*On Friday, December 17, at 1PM, we will gather in the sanctuary to celebrate the life of Andrew Adair alongside his family and friends.*

### Reading of the Gospel

Nancy Wilson

Luke 1:5-25

ONE: Through these written words of scripture, we listen for the  
Living Word of God.

ALL: Those who have ears to hear, let them hear.

## Giving Our Gifts

Nancy Wilson

ONE: What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would  
bring a lamb.

ALL: If I were a wiseman, I would do my part. Yet what can I give him  
but my heart?

## Offertory

*The Advent Candle*

Chancel Choir

Bob Chilcott

Tonight, we are lighting the candle, a candle to burn until You come to bring light to darkness and warm  
us with goodwill.

Tonight, in the sky there's a star we've never seen before, a star to lighten our darkness, and bring us to  
Your door.

Tonight, inside us, a window open wide. We are lighting a candle to guide us. Soon we'll be by Your side.  
We are lighting a candle to guide us. Soon we'll be by Your side.

## \*Presentation

ADESTE FIDELES

O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him;  
O come, let us adore Him; Christ the Lord.

## Reading of the Gospel

Derek Henson

Luke 1:26-45

ONE: Through these written words of scripture, we listen for the  
Living Word of God.

ALL: Those who have ears to hear, let them hear.

## \*Carol

*It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

Chalice Hymnal No. 153, verses 1 & 4

CAROL

## Message

*Peace for the Disinherited*

Dr. Foust

## \*Hymn of Peace

*Let There Be Peace on Earth*

Chalice Hymnal No. 677

WORLD PEACE

## \*Commissioning the Scattered Church

Dr. Foust

## \*Postlude

J. Noel Lance

*\*Invites the congregation to stand*