

Sunday December 8, 2024 10:00 A.M.

Advent 2 A Service of Peace

We're so pleased that you've come to worship with us this morning. While this bulletin is a guide to the service, if you are unfamiliar with the ritual customs of the Anglican Church, simply relax with the liturgy and let the rest of the congregation carry you in worship. After the service please join us downstairs for coffee, tea, and juice.

(Congregational participation in **BOLD**)

GREETING:

HYMN: O God of Every Longing
(See insert)

The prophet Malachi calls us to watch for the messenger God will send us, a messenger who burns with a passion for God's coming salvation. "For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver.

In a world driven by a passion to maintain the status quo, we choose to live with a passion for God's peace, to listen to those who call us to righteousness, and to be refined and purified until we reflect God's love throughout the earth.

Light the second candle of the Advent wreath.

We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to passionately pursue the work of making peace in our hearts, our families, our communities, and throughout the earth until God's kin-dom comes on earth as it is in heaven.

Collect of the Day
God of timeless grace,
you fill us with joyful expectation:
make us ready for the message that prepares the way,
so that with uprightness of heart and holy joy
we may eagerly await the coming of your Son,
Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Malachi 3: 1-4
Reader: Phyllis Hawley
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God

Second Reading:
Canticle: The Song of Zechariah
Luke 1:68-79
Reader: Phyllis Hawley
Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,
for you have come to your people and set them free.
You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,
born of the house of your servant David.
Through your holy prophets, you promised of old
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us,
to show mercy to our forebears,
and to remember your holy covenant.
This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship you without fear,
holy and righteous before you,
all the days of our life.
And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,
to give God's people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God

Psalm Hymn # 12 We Bless You God of Israel
(Blue book)

The Gospel Reading: (*standing*)
God be with you
And also with you
The Good News of Jesus Christ according to Luke
People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ
The Gospel Reading: Luke 3:1-6
Reader: The Rev. Dr. Jane Rowland
The Gospel of Christ
People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Sermon – *The Rev. Dr. Jane Rowland*

The Prayers of the People – *Lynne Smith*

Invitation and Peace

OFFERTORY HYMN # 102 Prepare the Way O Zion (*Blue Book)*

Eucharistic Prayer
Celebrant: May God be with you.
People: And also with you
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts
People: We lift them to the Holy One.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to our loving God.
People: It is right to offer thanks and praise

Celebrant: It is indeed right, ….
… join in their unending hymn.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord; God of pow'r and might;
Heav'n and earth of your glory are full.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest x2

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Blessed is he who comes in the names of the Lord.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord; God of pow'r and might;
Heav'n and earth of your glory are full.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest

Celebrant: Holy One, the beginning and the end, …
…now and forever.

Amen, Amen, Amen.

Meditation on the Lord's Prayer
In awe we come to You again,
You, whose name remains
beyond all naming.
May your will be our will,
Your peace be peace on earth,
and what is broken in our lives
be forgiven and made right.
Grant us today the bread of Your fields.
From the labour of our days
may Your love be the yield.
For You are, have been, and
always will be, our source,
our end, our soul's delight. Amen *Juleta Severson-Baker*

The gifts of God for the people of God
Thanks be to God

Chant # 156 The People That in Darkness Sat
Vs 1,2,4,5&6 (Blue Book)

THE COMMUNION

Hymn # 132 Of Eternal Love Begotten
Vs 1,3,4 & 5 (Blue Book)

The Prayer after Communion

Glory to God,
whose power working in us
can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the church and in Christ Jesus
for ever and ever. Amen.

Announcements

HYMN # 108 Hark a Herald Voice is Sounding
(Blue Book)

The Blessing and Dismissal

