

DECEMBER 5, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Welcome and Announcements

PRELUDE

CHORAL INTROIT

Introduction

Scripture: Isaiah 9:6-7

Lighting the Advent Candle of Peace

Prayer (Unison)

Eternal God, all through the years you have given peace to your people. Help us to know your peace in our lives today. We pray that, in this season of Advent, our acts of loving-kindness and care will reveal your presence to the sick, the hungry, the lonely and the rejected of our society, so that they also may experience Christ's peace in their hearts. Amen.

#HYMN #121 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison):

Almighty God, we are here this morning because we have heard Jesus' call to prepare ourselves for his arrival in power and glory. When Christ comes we want to be ready to receive him with joy and gratitude; but before that happens we need to cleanse our lives of sin and wait actively by living in a way that reflects your will rather than our own. Be present with us during this time of worship, dear Lord, and move our hearts to repentance so that we can be refocused and renewed. Help us to be lights of hope, peace, love and joy that shine in the darkness of the world as we seek to live faithfully in anticipation of Christ's return. We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord, who taught us to pray like this, saying . . .

#PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR (Unison)

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, for ever. Amen.

#GLORIA PATRI (Unison):

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen.

CHORAL ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 3:1-6 and 2 Peter 3:8-15a (Bible pages?)

MESSAGE Active Waiting

Rev. Gagnon

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Invitation to Pray and Receiving the Prayer Request Slips
 Pastoral Prayer and Silent Prayer
 Organ Response

OFFERTORY

Offertory Invitation
 Offertory Music
 # Doxology (#45 – Old Hundredth)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise Him, all creatures here below;
 Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

Holy God, our minds are spinning because there is so much preparation to do before Christmas arrives. We devote a lot of time and energy getting ready for the coming of that day, sometimes at the expense of getting ready for the coming of the One whose birth that day celebrates. So we bring you these offerings with joy and gratitude, and ask you to bless and use them so the world can prepare to receive Jesus the Messiah with open arms. Amen.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Table

#Hymn of Preparation #314 As We Gather at Your Table

Words of Institution and Great Thanksgiving

Receiving of the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Gratitude (Unison)

Loving Christ, in the time between celebrating your first coming and actively waiting for your return in glory, we dedicate our mouths to be your voice to the despairing; our hands to reach out in your name and lift up the downtrodden; our feet to visit those whom the world shuns and rejects; and our bodies to shine your light in the world as we work for justice, peace and righteousness on earth as it is in heaven. Having been nourished at Christ's table, we ask you to empower us and use us for that end, we pray in your blessed name. Amen.

#HYMN #117 Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

BENEDICTION

Pastor: When we know a visitor is coming to our home, we want to prepare for that person's arrival.

People: We clean, pick up the clutter and get our house ready to welcome the one whose visit we anticipate.

Pastor: There is no guest more worthy of our readiness than Jesus our Savior. Christ promised that he would come again, although we do not know when it will occur.

People: we will actively wait for Christ's return by getting our spiritual houses in order so that, whenever the day of his advent is, we will be prepared to receive him with joy.

Pastor: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE