

DECEMBER 6, 2020

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Welcome and Announcements

PRELUDE

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Leader: May your hearts be filled with peace as you hear the words of the prophet Isaiah, who told of one who would be born the Prince of Peace.

People: Thanks be to God.

Reading for the Second Sunday of Advent from Isaiah Chapter 9

Lighting the Advent Candle of Peace

Responsive Prayer (unison)

Lord God, you spoke through your prophets and promised a kingdom of peace. We welcome Lord Jesus, the Prince of Peace, and look forward to the day our hearts yearn for, when your realm shall be established and all people will live together in peace for all eternity. Amen.

HYMN #9 Come, Thou Almighty King

#PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison):

Almighty God, we are here because we have heard your prophet's voice calling us to prepare our hearts for the arrival of the One whose birth offers us rebirth. Although it is not yet time for the Messiah's coming, we want to be ready to receive him with joy and gratitude, not fear and regret. That requires us to change our ways, to make better choices and set different priorities for ourselves that reflect your will rather than our own. So be present with us during this time of worship, dear Lord, and inspire our hearts and minds to repentance so that our lives and the life of this church might be renewed. Help us become lights shining in the darkness of the world as we seek to live faithfully in anticipation of Jesus' advent. We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord, who taught us to pray like this. . .

#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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Mark 1:1-8 and 2 Peter 3:8-15

SERMON MESSAGE: *Not Yet* Rev. Gagnon

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Prayer Requests
 Silent Prayer
 Pastoral Prayer

BLESSING OF OUR OFFERINGS

#Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

Holy God, whenever we expect a visitor there is a lot we need to get done. And there is also a lot that needs to be done in preparation for the coming of the One who was born to us on Christmas and who will return at an unknown time, maybe in a day, a year or a thousand years. Although Christ's second coming has not yet occurred, we want to be ready for it. So we bring you these offerings and ask you to bless and use them to help us and the world prepare to greet Jesus with open arms. And we also ask you to empower our church to become a prophetic voice in the wilderness of the world, leading people to turn back to you. Amen

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

Receiving of the Bread and Cup

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Unison)

Jesus our Savior, with gratitude for the spiritual nourishment we have received at your table, we now 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 proclaim the Good News of your coming to rule as the Lord of our hearts and the world. Amen.

HYMN #117 *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night*

BENEDICTION (Responsive):

Pastor: When you leave this place of worship, be a voice like John the Baptist, crying in the wilderness to prepare for the Messiah's advent.

People: We will proclaim the Good News of Christ's coming to the world, not only by our words, but also by our deeds.

Pastor: As Christ's arrival draws near, whether it be tomorrow, a year or a thousand years from now, turn your lives in God's direction so you can be ready to receive Jesus with gladness.

People: Although Christ has not come yet, we will strive to live lives that will honor and express our love for God so when others look at us, they will see an example of what readiness for the Savior's coming looks like.

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

POSTLUDE

DISMISSAL