

SECOND SUNDAY OF
ADVENT



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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December 10, 2023

2nd Sunday of Advent

Peace

Welcome

Prelude

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Arr. Harry Simeone

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Lighting the Advent Candles

Carol Penner, Conrad Grebel College

One: Today we mark the second Sunday of Advent, and today we light the candle of peace.

Many: Advent is the season of peace. We long for a Savior who is our Prince of Peace, who blesses our warring world, meeting our brokenness with a peace that passes understanding. In darkness that deepens, we wait for the coming of the light of the world. We wait in peace as we light this candle of peace.

* Opening Prayer

Lord Jesus, we are all tempted to live without peace. It is difficult for us to remember that our peace is ultimately found in our status as believers, like your children. Help us to see the times when we have lived without peace and forgive us for our transgressions. Set our minds on you, that we may remember you are the prince of peace, and our security comes from you

alone. Teach us that this peace is inward, everlasting, and can exist regardless of our circumstances. In whatever way you believe is best, teach us how to live in that peace every day. We ask for that in your holy name, Amen.

* **Carol**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

218 VT

Verse 1:

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee:
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Verse 2:

Come, thou universal Savior;
come, redeem the human race.
Life and joy spring from thy favor;
cheer each soul in need of grace.
Still we wait for thine appearing—
make our senseless struggles cease.
Guide us from our weary wand'ring
into paths of perfect peace.

Verse 3:

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit,
rule in all our hearts alone.
By thine all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Children's Time (children over 5, can go to Children's Church)

Carol

12 Days of Christmas
(Advent Version)

unknown

On the first day of Christmas, our Father gave to us...

The Saving Grace of Jesus Christ

Two Testaments

Three Major Prophets

Four Gospel Books

Five Books of Law

Six Days of Work

Seven Days of Blessings

Eight Ways of Praying

Nine Beatitudes

Ten Commands for Living

Eleven Godly Women

Twelve True Apostles

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:1-5 NRSVUE

40 Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. ³ A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ Then the glory of the Lord

shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

Pastoral Prayer

Carol

Comfort, Comfort, O My People

#212 VT

Comfort, Comfort, O My People by Catherine Winkworth, Johannes G. Olearius, John L. Bell, Louis Bourgeois
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Verse 1:

Comfort, comfort, O my people,
speak of peace, now says our God.
Comfort those who sit in shadows,
mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
Speak unto Jerusalem
of the peace that waits for them.
Tell of all the sins I cover,
and that warfare now is over.

Verse 2:

Hark, the voice of one who's crying
in the desert far and near,
bidding all to full repentance,
since the kingdom now is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way!
Valleys, rise in exaltation;
hills, bow down in adoration.

Verse 3:

O make straight what long was crooked,
make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble,
as befits a holy reign.
For the glory of our God
now o'er earth is shed abroad.
And all flesh shall see the token
that God's word is never broken.

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Thoughts on Giving (in unison)

Carol Penner, Conrad Penner College

Let us be a witness to God: immersed in scripture, constant in prayer, joyful in worship, generous in giving. A loving, supportive community reaching out to those in need. May God accept the gifts we offer, in Jesus' name, Amen.

Special Music

The Wexford Carol
What Child Is This

Trad. Carol
W. Chatterton Dix

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 9:6 NRSVUE

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Sermon

“The Peace Jesus Gives”

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Carol

Go Tell It on the Mountain

#252 VT

Refrain:

*Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

Verse 1:

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

Refrain

Verse 2:

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior’s birth.

Refrain

Verse 3:

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain:

*** Benediction**

Postlude









Emmanuel

Bob McGee

Emmanuel by Bob McGee

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* Please stand as able and led

							
Ministers.....							All Members
Pastor.....							David Whitten
Minister of Music.....							Vanessa Morton
Worship Leader.....							Carol Goss
Children’s Time.....							Sarah Hartman
Special Music.....							Bill Kinzie & David Whitten
Flautist.....							Sarah Hartman
Guitarist.....							David Whitten
Dir. of Media & Tech.....							Kevin Beers