



WORSHIP SERVICE 12-6-2020

2nd Sunday of Advent

Please gather your Advent candles (5 candles any color) and your bread and juice/wine for communion before you begin.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: In this Advent season of expectation,

PEOPLE: We prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, Messiah.

LEADER: Into our homes where the pandemic calls us to not welcome guests,

PEOPLE: We prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, Messiah.

LEADER: Into our own hearts, desires, and expectations,

PEOPLE: We prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, Messiah.

ALL: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

PRAYER

HYMN # O Come, O Come, 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 Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by your advent here.

Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.

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

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;

Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease, fill the whole world with heave's peace.

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

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

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE

LEADER: Today we relight the candle of Hope and the candle of Peace.
Real peace is not cheap. Real peace does not always play nice, deny hurt, or avoid conflict. It does not ignore injustice, but speaks truth, and offers reconciliation.

PEOPLE: **“Come, let us go to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so we may walk in his paths. He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.”** Isaiah 2: 3-4

PRAYER: **Lord Jesus Christ, You invite us to draw near and learn Your ways of real peace. Today we pray for your peace, not just for ourselves, but for those who suffer injustice. Lord, help us beat our own words and actions into instruments of peace and health. In Your name, Amen.**

HYMN While We Are Waiting, Come
While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

GIVING OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

PRAYER AND PRAISE

HYMN # Open Our Eyes, Lord
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch Him, and say that we love Him;
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen;
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 11: 1- 11

¹ After Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in the towns of Galilee.

² When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples ³ to ask him, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?”

⁴ Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: ⁵ The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. ⁶ Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.”

⁷ As John’s disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? ⁸ If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings’ palaces. ⁹ Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written:

‘I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹ Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

REFLECTION Stumbling Expectations

HYMN # Jesus Paid It All

I hear my Savior say, “Your strength, indeed, is small;
Child of weakness, watch and pray, find in Me your all in all.”

Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe;

Sin had left a crimson stain; Christ washed it white as snow.

SHARING THE LORD’S ADVENT TABLE

BENEDICTION Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

And all God’s people say, “**AMEN!**”