

Advent Two

December 4th 2022 + 4pm



John the Baptist - Modern Saints By Gracie - www.themodernsaints.com



*Beloved companions in the Spirit -
Come as you are offering our lives
in the beautiful struggle of faith...*

We Gather

Opening Loop

Tolling of the Bells

Announcements & Land Acknowledgement & Land Welcome in ɫəkʷəŋən from elder Butch Dick

*During the invocation, the youth and children bring forward
lit candles as a sign of hope in the bleakness.*

Invocation: Come To Us Emmanuel

Come to us, Emmanuel
We wait for thee with bated breath
And hope filled hearts
And anxious minds
Longing to see your face
And worship at your feet

Isaiah's vision didst unfold
When you descended into this world
to bring good news
and set the prisoners free
You set aside eternity
so that we might live

So come to us Emmanuel
we live in hope of your return
to bring new life to this old world
to end all wars and to heal all hearts
and to reign forevermore
to reign forevermore.

Peter LeGrand (Ordinary Time) / CCLI

Candle Lighting

We come to know you, Holy One, as Wisdom Incarnate, as
Flickering Flame, as Spirit of Life, as Hope, Peace, Joy,
and Love, Enfleshed.

**You come to us as the Stranger, and the Strange.
Often we do not recognize you. Often we turn away
from your gifts and your demands.**

**Yet you come to us in Wilderness, in the Impossible
Made Possible, in Silence and Singing and Sighs Too
Deep for Words.**

**And so, this Advent, we pause... We breathe... We pray.
We dig deep. We reach out. We rise up. We turn
around. We become aware... We wait, expectant.**

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The second Advent candle is lit

Today, as we mark the Advent Path with candle flames, we
light the second candle, the candle of peace.

Bell. Silence. Bell

Opening Song: On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken,
for he brings glad tidings of the king of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within.
Prepare we in our heart a home,
where such a mighty guest may come.

For though art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.

All praise, eternal Son,
to thee whose advent doth thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Spirit for evermore.

Text: LM; Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. by John Chandler, 1806-1876, alt. Music:
Georg Wittwe's Musikalisches Hand-Buch, Hamburg, 1690; adapt. by William H.
Havergal, 1793-1870.

Poem: Making Peace by Denise Levertov
Read by poet-in-residence, Rebecca Yeo

A voice from the dark called out,
 'The poets must give us
imagination of peace, to oust the intense, familiar
imagination of disaster. Peace, not only
the absence of war.'

 But peace, like a poem,
is not there ahead of itself,
can't be imagined before it is made,
can't be known except
in the words of its making,
grammar of justice,
syntax of mutual aid.

 A feeling towards it,
dimly sensing a rhythm, is all we have
until we begin to utter its metaphors,
learning them as we speak.

 A line of peace might appear
if we restructured the sentence our lives are making,
revoked its reaffirmation of profit and power,
questioned our needs, allowed
long pauses . . .

 A cadence of peace might balance its weight
on that different fulcrum; peace, a presence,
an energy field more intense than war,
might pulse then,
stanza by stanza into the world,
each act of living
one of its words, each word
a vibration of light—facets
of the forming crystal.

Psalms 72 selected verses (chanted - * indicates a pause)

Give the ruler your justice, O God*
and your right ways to the ruler's child;

May the ruler judge your people with righteousness*
and rule the poor with justice;

May the mountains raise up well-being for the people*
and the little hills bring righteousness.

The ruler shall defend the needy among the people;*
And shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

The ruler shall live as long as the sun and moon endure,*
from one generation to another.

The ruler shall come down like rain upon the mown field*
like showers that water the earth.

In that time shall the righteous flourish;*
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no
more.

Blessed be her glorious name forever the God of Israel*
who alone does wondrous deeds!

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (11:1-10)

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,

but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord

as the waters cover the sea.
On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

You are invited to rise in body or in spirit as we prepare our hearts to hear the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation: Prepare Ye The Way

Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,
And all people will see the salvation of our God.

Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,
And all people will see the salvation of our God.

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The Gospel

Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops!

With our words and with our lives!

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew 3: 1-12

Wil Gafney translation.

In those days John the Baptizer appeared in the wilderness of Judea, preaching, “Repent, for the realm of the heavens is near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said:

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Most High;

make God’s paths straight.’ ”

Now John had for his clothing camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the women and men of Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized in the river Jordan by him, confessing their sins. But when John saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves,

‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. The ax is already lying at the root of the trees; therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. “Indeed! I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops!

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Sermon

Rob Crosby-Shearer, EC

Bell / Silence / Bell

You are invited to rise in body or in spirit as we affirm our faith.

Affirmation of Faith

Hear, O Israel*,

the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

Love the Lord your God

with all your heart, with all your soul,

with all your mind, and with all your strength.

This is the first and the great commandment.

The second is like it:

Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

Advent Prayer Spiral and candle lighting

You are welcome to take a candle and walk into the center of the spiral and light your candle and then leave it somewhere in the spiral on your way out. Candles can also be lit on the low table in front of the altar.

Song: Holy Darkness

(refrain) Holy darkness, blessed night,
heaven's answer hidden from our sight.
As we await you, O God of silence,
we embrace your holy night.

I have tried you in fires of affliction;
I have taught your soul to grieve.
In the barren solid of your loneliness,
there I will plant my seed.

I have taught you the price of compassion;
you have stood before the grave.
Though my love can seem like a raging storm,
this is the love that saves.

Were you there when I raised up the mountains?
Can you guide the morning star?
Does the hawk take flight when you give command?
Why do you doubt my pow'r?

1988, 1989, Daniel L. Schutte.OCP/Onelicense

Collect + Confession and Assurance

In silence before God we confess the ways we have turned
away...

Silence

Jesus, you came to call us to repentance.

Lord, have mercy.

You come in word and sacrament to share your life abundant.

Christ, have mercy.

You will come again in glory to renew the whole creation.

Lord, have mercy.

God for whom we wait and watch, draw us in and cleanse us of
our sins so that we might walk in the light of the world made
flesh. Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen. © 2011 Bosco Peters

The Peace

Beloved in Christ. The peace of the Lord be always with
you. **And also with you.**

We exchange the peace with a gesture.

*During this next 'offertory' song, the table is set.
You are welcomed (now, or later) to place any financial contributions to
our common life in the vintage record player in the back of the worship
space. Cheques can be made out to 'The Emmaus Community'.
Charitable receipts will be issued if you leave us your address.*

Offertory Song: Instrument of Peace

(refrain) Lord make me an instrument of peace,
an instrument of peace.

Lord make me an instrument of peace,
an instrument of peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love.
Where there is darkness, let me sow light.
For in the giving, we shall receive,
and in the dying, we're given life.

Where there is sorrow, let me sow hope.
Where there is doubt, let me sow faith.
Where there is injury, Your pardon give,
Your consolation to those in pain.

Integrity Worship, Integrity's Alleluia!, Integrity's Praise!, Paul Zach, PG Songs And
Hymns, Porter's Gate Publications, Porter's Gate Publishing/CCLI

We Celebrate

Prayer Over The Gifts

Come with gratitude and joy to the table of the Lord. Come
with all your longing and all your hope for peace. Bring
the works of your hands and the gifts of your lives as an
offering of praise. **Amen** Feasting on the Word, (alt).

The Communion/Eucharist

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise!

Holy God, How wonderful is the work of your hands!
All of creation echos the music of your praise

When we fled from you, you sought us out and gathered us like
a mother hen, covered us in your mercy and set us a place at
your table.

Your holy prophets longed that you might tear the heavens and come down, and so in tenderness, you sent Jesus, born of Mary, to be Emmanuel - God with us.

Glory to you forever and ever.

As one of us, Jesus healed the sick and ate with outcasts and sinners, he opened the eyes of the blind and proclaimed liberation for all.

You have sent your Holy Spirit as a mighty stream, to refresh and renew the face of the earth. Therefore with the company of heaven and all of your creation we sing:

**Holy holy holy Lord / God of power G—od of might /
Heaven and the earth are full / are fu-ll of your glo—ry /
Hosanna Hosanna / How blessed is the One!
who comes in the name of the Lord!**

While Jesus was eating with his disciples, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take, this is my body. Do this in remembrance of me."

Glory to you forever and ever.

As supper was ending, Jesus took the wine and after blessing it, poured it, gave it to them and said, take, this is my blood, do this in remembrance of me. **Glory to you forever and ever.**

Holy God we give you thanks for the mystery of faith given to us in Jesus your Child:

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ; dying you destroyed our death. Rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus come in glory to reign. O Come O Come O Come Emmanuel. Lord Jesus come in glory to reign.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. As we stay alert for signs of your coming, stir up our hearts and infuse us with your peace.

As grain was scattered across this land then gathered and made one in this bread, so may your church, scattered to the ends of the earth, be gathered and made one in your love. **Amen.**

The Prayer of Jesus

As beloved children of a loving parent let us pray:

Our Father (Mother/Source) in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Silence is kept.

These are the gifts of God, for the people of God, given for the life of the world. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

All are welcome to receive at Jesus' table! The bread is gluten-free. It may contain dairy and/or almond flour. If you'd like a dairy or nut free option, please let the presider know. Juice is in the small cups. Wine is in the common cup, please do not dip the bread into the cup.

Communion Song: Jesse Tree

Out of the Root of the Jesse Tree
I'm gonna set my people free;
Into the desert, into the night,
I'm gonna send my sweet, pure light,

And there'll be peace, joy, hope, and love;
There will be peace, joy, hope, and love.

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Communion Song: Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord; be strong, take heart.

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We Are Sent

Prayer after Communion

God of new beginnings, you draw near to us in word and sacrament to strengthen and renew us; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit, may your peace so shine through us that all may know your liberation. We ask this in the name of Jesus Emmanuel. **Amen.**

Closing Song: There Will Be Peace in the Valley

Oh well, I'm tired and so weary - but I must go along
Till the lord comes and calls, calls me away, oh yes
Well the morning's so bright and the lamb is the light
And the night, night is as black as the sea, oh yes

Refrain: There will be peace in the valley for me, some day
There will be peace in the valley for me, oh Lord I pray
There'll be no sadness, no sorrow no trouble, trouble I see
There will be peace in the valley for me, for me

Well the bear will be gentle and the wolf will be tame
And the lion shall lay down by the lamb, oh yes
And the beast from the wild shall be led by a child
And I'll be changed, changed from this creature that I am, o yes
Rev. Thomas A. Dorsey / 1939 Unichappel Music / CCLI

Sending

May we go from here hearts and lives open to the Sacred
for God calls us to take heart and be of good courage!
In assurance the Spirit goes with us, let us go in peace.
Thanks be to God! Enfleshed, (alt).

Closing Announcement Loop



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We would love to connect! Call, text, email.
(community cell monitored regularly)