

**A Service of Morning Prayer  
December 4, 2022  
Second Sunday of Advent**



**THE CANDLES OF ADVENT**

**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: PEACE**

**INTROIT** 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.

**VOICE** Today is the Second Sunday of Advent - the Sunday of Peace.

**VOICE** Our peace is found in God and in his son, Jesus Christ. John the Baptist, and all the prophets remind us, that to receive peace we must be prepared for it.

**VOICE** We light this candle today to remind us that Christ is the Prince of Peace, the one promised from the beginning of the world. We thank God for the hope he gives us and for the peace he bestows.

*Light the First and Second Candles*

**VOICE** Let us pray --- O God of Peace, Emmanuel, we pray you to send your light into our hearts at this time. Help us to be ready for the day and the hour of Christ's appearing. Work in our hearts at this time and help us prepare ourselves for the peace that he brings – the inner peace that tells us that we are united with you and the outer peace which will come when he returns to judge the world. Bless our worship that it may be pleasing unto you, and bless us that we may prove to be your faithful servants. Amen.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. All flesh shall see  
the salvation of God *Luke 3:4, 6*

CP 12 We Bless You, God of Israel

1 We bless you, God of Israel,  
you come to set your people free.  
In Jesus, born of David's line,  
salvation springs for all to see.

3 This child will go before the Lord,  
the vanguard of Messiah's way,  
≠ preaching forgiveness full and free  
the prelude to God's perfect day.

2 You promised through the prophets' word  
to save your people from their foes;  
in freedom they will worship you,  
≠ fearless, delivered from their woes.

4 Your tender love, like early dawn,  
≠ heralds the day of endless peace;  
the darkness of death's shadow fades;  
your justice reigns, and will not cease.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
And the love of God,  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
Be with you all.

**And also with you.**

May his grace and peace be with you.  
**May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Almighty God,  
**To you all hearts are open,  
All desires known,  
And from you no secrets are hidden.  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
That we may perfectly love you,  
And worthily magnify your holy name;  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 *Refrain* In his time shall peace and justice flourish.

72:1 Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

72:2 May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.

72:3 May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

72:4 May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.

72:5 May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

72:6 May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.

72:7 In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

72:18 Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

72:19 Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen and Amen.

## A Reading from Isaiah 11:1-10

11:1 A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

11:2 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.

11:3 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;

11:4 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek 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.

11:5 Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

11:6 The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

11:7 The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

11:8 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

11:9 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.

11:10 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.**

## CP 622 How Bright Appears the Morning Star

1 How bright appears the morning star with mercy beaming from afar;  
the host of heaven rejoices.

O righteous Branch of Jesse's rod, true Light of Light and God of God,  
we, too, will lift our voices.

Jesus, Jesus, holy, holy, yet most lowly ever near us,  
great Emmanuel, swift to hear us.

2 Though circled by the hosts on high, you looked on us with pitying eye  
and saved your sinful creature;

the whole creation's head and Lord, by highest seraphim adored,  
you took our very nature.

Amen, amen, alleluia, alleluia, praise be given  
evermore by earth and heaven.

A Reading from Romans 15:4-13

15:4 For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.

15:5 May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus,

15:6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

15:7 Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

15:8 For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs,

15:9 and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name";

15:10 and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

15:11 and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him";

15:12 and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

CP 341 God of Mercy, God of Grace

1 God of mercy, God of grace,  
show the brightness of your face;  
shine upon us, Saviour, shine;  
fill your church with light divine;  
and your saving health extend  
unto earth's remotest end.

2 Let the people praise you, Lord;  
be by all that live adored;  
let the nations shout and sing  
glory to their Saviour King;  
at your feet their tribute pay,  
and your holy will obey.

3 Let the people praise you, Lord;  
earth shall then its fruits afford,  
God to us all blessings give,  
we to God devoted live;  
all below and all above  
one in joy and light and love.

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Matthew 3:1-12

3:1 In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming,

3:2 "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

3:3 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 Lord, make his paths straight.'"

3:4 Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.

3:5 Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan,

3:6 and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

3:7 But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?"

3:8 Bear fruit worthy of repentance.

3:9 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.

3:10 Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

3:11 "I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

3:12 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."

The Gospel of Christ

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon by the Rev. Alison Westervelt

CCLI 6149833 Come To Us

1 Scattered and broken bent in our way  
We are Your people gathered to praise You  
A vineyard uprooted narrow in sight  
Come Lord of glory come Lord of light

**Chorus 1**

***Come to us O Lord of glory and shine in our hearts***

***Come to us O Lord of glory and make us anew***

***Lord we wait for You Lord we wait for You  
Lord we wait for You come Lord of glory***

2 Come Lord our dayspring come from on high  
As we Your people gather to praise You  
Unworthy to taste from Your heavenly vine  
But Your word will heal us come light divine

3 Come Root of Jesse come David's son  
Come Star of Morning we come to praise You  
Hope of creation of all humankind  
Reign over body spirit and mind

**Ending**

Lord we wait for You come Lord of glory

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven.  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People compiled and led by Betty Johnson

For our intercessions today we will use Litany Number 12, which you can find on page 119 of the Book of Alternative Services.

(In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, "Lord Jesus, come soon!")

We pray for the church.

In the worldwide cycle of prayer, we pray for the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East.

In Canada, we pray for the Diocese of Huron: The Rt. Rev. Dr. Todd Townshend, Bishop.

We pray for the Lay Readers and Lay Evangelists in parishes throughout the Diocese of Edmonton.

We pray for our own parish of St. Peter's for our clergy: Heather and Alison, our music ministry Nadine and our Wardens, Vestry and all volunteers.

We pray especially for Rev. Heather as she prepares to move on to shepherd a new community. May she bring as much love and energy to her new flock as she brought to us, and may she be welcomed warmly.

And we ask you to keep your loving, protecting eye upon us who are now searching for a new shepherd. May we always look to you for guidance.

We pray for the Gahengeri Indigenous community in Buyé Diocese: Jean De Dieu Nzobarinda, Rector.

We pray for the people of the Frog Lake First Nation.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

We pray for our King Charles and all those in authority as we approach the Christmas season, we pray for peace and love.

We pray for the peaceful repose of the souls of those who have died, especially Diane Thompson and comfort for her husband Bill and those who mourn.

We pray for those for whom our prayers are requested: Sandra... Merle..... Mona..... Mary..... Irene ..... Kathryn..... Helen..... Jenifer..... Tony and Mary Jean..... Luisa..... Miranda..... Bill..... Maxime..... Geraldine.... Florence..... Joan..... Shirley and Cyril..... Mark and Blake..... Lisa..... Marijke..... Chrissie, Cathy, and the family..... Diane..... Janelle..... Ruth.....

O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness; come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Hasten, O Father, the coming of thy kingdom; and grant that we thy servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold thy Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

**Collect****Almighty God,**

**who sent your servant John the Baptist  
to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah,  
inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth,  
to turn our disobedient hearts to you,  
that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge,  
we may stand with confidence before his glory;  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.**

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
**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 trespasses,  
 as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
 And lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom,  
 the power, and the glory,  
 for ever and ever. Amen.**

### CP 116 "Your Kingdom Come" -- On Bended Knee

1 "Your kingdom come" -- on bended knee  
 the passing ages pray;  
 and faithful souls have yearned to see  
 on earth that kingdom's day.

2 But the slow watches of the night  
 not less to God belong,  
 and for the everlasting right  
 the silent stars are strong.

3 And lo, already on the hills  
 the flags of dawn appear.  
 Gird up your loins, ye prophet souls,  
 proclaim the day is near:

4 the day in whose clear-shining light  
 all wrong shall stand revealed,  
 when justice shall be throned with might,  
 and every heart be healed:

5 when knowledge, hand in hand with peace,  
 shall walk the earth abroad --  
 the day of perfect righteousness,  
 the promised day of God.

### The Dismissal

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. All flesh shall see  
 the salvation of God *Luke 3:4, 6*

Let us bless the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

Let us depart in peace and take with us the certain knowledge  
 that God is always coming into the world.

May the blessing of Christmas make us a blessing to others.

May the peace of the season pervade all that we do.

Let us go forth in hope, peace, joy, and love.

**Thanks be to God.**