

THE SERVICE OF THE LORD'S DAY
Sunday 8th December 2019

CALL TO WORSHIP:

HYMN: TiS 265

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 you, O Israel

O come, O come, great Lord of might
who to the tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times did give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.

Rejoice! rejoice

O come, O key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high
and close the path to misery.

Rejoice! rejoice

O come, O branch of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save
and give them victory o'er the grave.

Rejoice! rejoice

O come, O dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by your advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

Rejoice! rejoice

*Anon., Latin, 18th cent. or earlier
based on Antiphons from 9th cent. or earlier
tr. John Mason Neale 1818-66 alt.*

CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY:

Today is the second Sunday of Advent – the Sunday of peace.

Isaiah describes kingdom of God as a place of peace where hatred, anger and violence are swept away.

The wolf shall live with the lamb

Israel and Palestine will tear down their wall.

The leopard shall lie down with the kid

Humanities differences and the poor will matter no more

The calf and the lion will feed together

Left and Right will work together in harmony

A little child shall lead them

Today we light the candle of PEACE as a prayer, a protest and a reminder of God's prayer for this world. First with the candle of hope, then the candle of peace to symbolize God's ever increasing light.

Candles are lit

ADVENT SONG: TiS 286 (vv 1&2)

**Light one candle for hope
one bright candle for hope
He brings hope to every heart
He comes! He comes!**

**Light one candle for peace
one bright candle for peace
He brings peace to every heart
He comes! He comes!**

Natalie Sleeth 1930-92

PRAYER of Adoration and Confession:

Assurance

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who does wondrous things. (*Psalm 72:8*)
The most wondrous of all being the birth of his son, Jesus Christ. "not to condemn the world, but that world may be saved through him." "Those who believe in him are not condemned"

Thanks be to God

EARLY WORD with children: “Applesauce and the Christmas Miracle”

Activity: “What does Christmas mean to you?”

Nativity scene: to be placed on the table by children - “He is The Gift” /u-tube

Dance: “See a Baby” (*all seated*)

**See a baby lying in a manger
wrapped in swaddling bands.
See the hope of every generation
in his outstretched hands.**

**See the mother gazing down upon him.
Love and fear combined.
For the presence of this tiny being
is from God a sign.**

See a baby lying in a manger

**See the shepherds kneeling down in terror
at the blinding light.
Hear the angels telling them to 'Fear not'
as they fill the night.**

See a baby lying in a manger

**See the Magi, men of special knowledge
kneeling by his stall.
See them lay their special gifts around him,
the greatest gift of all.**

**See a baby lying in a manger
wrapped in swaddling bands.
See the hope of every generation
in his outstretched hands.
See the hope of every generation
in his outstretched hands.**

BIBLE READINGS: (NRSV)

Isaiah 11:1-10 (OT p.654)

Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19 (OT p.541)

- ¹ Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.
- ² **May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice.**
- ³ May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
- ⁴ **May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy,
and crush the oppressor**
- ⁵ May he live while the sun endures,
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.
- ⁶ **May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.**
- ⁷ In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
- ¹⁸ **Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.**
- ¹⁹ Blessed be his glorious name forever;
may his glory fill the whole earth.
Amen and Amen.

REFLECTION:

HYMN: TiS 473

**Community of Christ,
who make the Cross your own,
live out your creed and risk your life
for God alone:
the God who wears your face,
to whom all worlds belong,
whose children are of every race
and every song.**

**Community of Christ,
look past the Church's door
and see the refugee, the hungry,
and the poor.**

**Take hands with the oppressed,
the jobless in your street,
take towel and water, that you wash
your neighbour's feet.**

**Community of Christ,
through whom the word must sound -
cry out for justice and for peace
the whole world round:
disarm the powers that war
and all that can destroy,
turn bombs to bread, and tears of anguish
into joy.**

**When menace melts away,
so shall God's will be done,
the climate of the world be peace
and Christ its Sun;
our currency be love
and kindness our law,
our food and faith be shared as one
for evermore.**

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OFFERING: Come, let us be part of the creation of a new community.
Our offering will now be received.

Offertory Prayer

We place our gifts in our hand's, O Lord, hold them & bless them we pray.
Then show us responsible & compassionate ways of using them in your name.

Amen

NOTICES:

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

-----In Christ name we pray,
who taught us to pray this prayer together: **“Our Father in heaven**

HYMN: TiS 275

- 1. Hail to the Lord's anointed,
great David's greater Son;
hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to let the captive free,
and take away transgression,
and rule in equity.**
- 2. He comes with help and mercy
to those who suffer wrong,
to raise the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong,
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls condemned and dying
were precious in his sight.**
- 3. He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth;
before him on the mountains
shall peace the herald go,
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.**

4. Kings shall fall down before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing;
to him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.
5. O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious,
all blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever,
that name to us is love.

James Montgomery 1771-1854 alt.

BLESSING:

"Deep Peace of the running wave to you" /u-tube

HYMN: TiS 778

Shalom to you now,
shalom my friends.
May God's full mercies
bless you my friends.
In all your living
and through your loving;
Christ be your shalom.
Christ be your shalom.

Elise Shoemaker Eslinger 1942–