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December 08, 2024 - Weekly Readings

2nd Advent

We acknowledge that we meet and work in Treaty 1 Land. We appreciate the Gifts of Resources from Creator coming from Treaty 2 and 3 Land. Treaty 1, 2 & 3 Land are the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, Dene, Sioux and the homeland of the Metis Nation. We are grateful for their stewardship of this land and their hospitality which allows us to live, work and serve God the Creator here.

Hymns for the Day

Opening

- My Lord What A Morning

Gradual

- Not For Tongues Of Heavens Angels

Closing

- God Whose Almighty Word

Advent Candles

Why do we light the first candle?

The first candle is the candle of hope. It reminds us to follow the example of the prophets who waited with hope for the coming of the Saviour.

Why do we light the second candle?

The first candle is the candle of Hope, This is the candle of Peace. It reminds us that God wants all people to live together in harmony. God has promised that the Holy Spirit will live forever in our hearts to bring peace.

Light the Advent Candle, One:

Now the waiting has begun;

We have started on our way,

Time to think of Christmas day.

Chorus:

Candle, candle, burning bright,

Shining in the cold winter night;

Candle, candle, burning bright,

Fill our hearts with Christmas light.

Light the Advent candle, two:

Think of humble shepherds, who

Filled with wonder at the sight

Of the child on Christmas night.

Baruch 5:1-9

The return of scattered Israel

5:1

LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God.

5:2

Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting,

5:3

for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven,

5:4

for God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory."

5:5

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them.

5:6

For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies, but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne.

5:7

For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.

5:8

The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command.

5:9

For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Luke 1:68-79

1:68

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

1:69

He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his child David,

1:70

as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

1:71

that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

1:72

Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors and has remembered his holy covenant,

1:73

the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us

1:74

that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear,

1:75
in holiness and righteousness in his presence all our days.

1:76
And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

1:77
to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

1:78
Because of the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

1:79
to shine upon those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Philippians 1:3-11

1:3
I thank my God for every remembrance of you,

1:4
always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy

1:5
for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.

1:6
I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.

1:7
It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I hold you in my heart, for all of you are my partners in God's grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel.

1:8
For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the tender affection of Christ Jesus.

1:9
And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight

1:10
to help you to determine what really matters, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless,

1:11
having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Luke 3:1-6

3:1
In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate

was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene,

3:2
during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

3:3
He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,

3:4
as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.

3:5
Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth,

3:6
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

The Dismissal

To all our donors and those who have contacted us for one concern or the other, we are grateful for your gifts and presence. Thank you for your generous donations and giving.

We pray that the

risen Lord bless and multiply you in all you do.

Go Forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And be what you are, the church in the World.

Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

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