

Advent II - Peace  
Sunday, December 8, 2024  
"Making Room for God's Gifts"

Introit **Come All You People** (More Voices 2)

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

*Words: Alexander Gondo, Zimbabwe; English Paraphrase: I-to Loh  
Music: Alexander Gondo, Zimbabwe, notated by I-to Loh; Arrangement: John L. Bell, 1995  
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Come all you people,  
come and praise your Maker,  
come all you people,  
come and praise your Maker,  
come all you people,  
come and praise your Maker,  
come now and worship the Lord. *Repeat*

Welcome and Announcements

Centring Music Of the Father's Love Begotten

*Plainsong, 13th Century, arranged by Carol Tornquist*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Today we kindle the Advent candle of peace.

**We welcome the light that pierces the shadows,  
the light that affirms God's presence,  
the light that enables us to move forward in faith.**

Come, Holy One, beacon of peace on this Advent journey;  
welcome us as we welcome you.

**We receive the light of peace.**

Choral Response **Jesus Came Bringing Us Peace**  
(More Voices 33)

*Words and Music: traditional song, Cameroon; arr. More Voices 2007  
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Jesus came bringing us peace,  
Jesus came bringing us peace,  
Jesus came bringing us peace,  
hallelujah, forever more.

Morning Prayer

Hymn **People Look East** (Voices United 9, vs. 1 - 4)

*Words: Eleanor Farjeon 1928  
Music: French folk melody, harm. Martin Fallas Shaw 1928  
Words © David Higham Associates  
Harmony © Oxford University Press 1928  
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- 1 People, look east. The time is near  
of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the guest is on the way.
- 2 Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,  
one more seed is planted there:  
give up your strength the seed to nourish,  
that in course the flower may flourish.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the rose is on the way.
- 3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build,  
guard the nest that must be filled;  
even the hour when wings are frozen  
God for fledging time has chosen.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the bird is on the way.

4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim  
one more light the bowl shall brim,  
shining beyond the frosty weather,  
bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the star is on the way.

### A Time to Wonder

Anthem Emmanuel Soon Will Appear

*Nancy Price and Don Besig*

### Scripture Readings

Malachi 3: 1- 4

Luke 3: 1-6

Reflection "Making Room For Peace"

Hymn of the Day **O Little Town of Bethlehem**  
(Voices United 64)

*Words: Phillips Brooks 1868; Music: Lewis Henry Redner 1968  
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1 O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by;  
yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary;  
and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to all on earth.

3 How silently, how silently  
the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessed gift of heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming;  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in.

4 O holy child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in;  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel.

### Invitation to Offering

Offering Response **Giver of the Perfect Gift**  
(Voices United 116)

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

*Words: from the Latin ca. 11<sup>th</sup> century; trans. John Ellerton 1891  
Music: adapt. from Orlando Gibbons 1623*

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Giver of the perfect gift,  
Bringing peace to human race,  
These our gifts, our hearts to praise,  
Gathered at thy throne of grace.

### Offering Prayer

### Joys and Concerns

### Pastoral Prayers & The Lord's Prayer

Parting Hymn **There's a Voice in the Wilderness**

(Voices United 18, vs. 1 - 3)

*Words: James Lewis Milligan 1925, alt.*

*Music: Henry Hugh Bancroft 1938*

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- 1 There's a voice in the wilderness crying,  
a call from the ways untrod:  
prepare in the desert a highway,  
a highway for our God!  
The valleys shall be exalted,  
the lofty hills brought low;  
make straight all the crooked places  
where God, our God, may go!
- 2 O Zion, that bringest good tidings,  
get thee up to the heights and sing!  
Proclaim to a desolate people  
the coming of their King.  
Like the flowers of the field they perish,  
like grass our works decay;  
the power and pomp of nations  
shall pass, like a dream, away.
- 3 But the word of our God endureth,  
whose arm is ever strong;  
God stands in the midst of nations,  
and soon will right the wrong.  
God shall feed the flock like a shepherd,  
the lambs so gently hold;  
to pastures of peace will lead them,  
and bring them safe to fold.

Benediction

Choral Response **Take up His Song (More Voices 213)**

*Words and Music: Laura A. Herman, 2005; arr. Robin King, 2006*

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*Arrangement © 2006 Robin King.*

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Take up his song of peace  
and go into the world  
Take up his song of peace in ev'ry moment.  
In ev'ry moment of the journey,  
we're laying down our lives;  
lay them down, in peace,  
lay them down and take up his song.

Postlude O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*Tune: Veni Emmanuel, Arranged by Mark Hayes*

Worship Leadership – Pastor Beth Parsons  
Music Leadership – Sharon Prindle-Collins and the CBU Choir  
Welcome and Announcements – Stephen Godfrey  
Greeters – Erich and Ruth Schulz  
Lighting of the Christ Candle – Arlene and Len Box  
Morning Prayer – Sue Christensen  
Spirit Kids Program – Grace Cave and Moira Dennis  
Scripture Reading – Louise Johnston  
Offering Invitation and Prayer – Alan Priestley  
Technical Support – Bob Krueckl and Ron Norman  
Fellowship Time – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Brew Crew