

Second Sunday in Advent
“The Gift of Peace”
December 5, 2021

As We Gather

Our Lord Jesus is coming, bearing real gifts, profoundly important gifts. He came that first Christmas to win forgiveness and give all the gifts that come with it: hope, peace, joy, love. He is coming again at the end of this world to give the gift of resurrection to eternal life. In the season of Advent, we connect Christ’s first coming with his second coming. We rejoice in all the unconditional gifts he gives.

Today we celebrate the gift of peace. Because of the coming of the Prince of Peace, we have peace beyond anything that this world can give. May God bless each of us with His peace today!

Welcome

“God With Us”

Oh You've come to bring peace to be Love To be nearer to us You've come to bring life to be Light To shine brighter in us Oh Emmanuel God with us	Oh You've come to be Hope to this world For Your honor and name And You've come to take sin to bear shame And to conquer the grave Oh Emmanuel God with us
Our Deliverer You are Savior In Your presence we find our strength Over ev'rything our Redemption God with us You are God with us	You are here You are holy We are standing in Your glory (Lord) Oh God with us You are God with us

Invocation *(From Divine Service 2, page 167)*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit
People: **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us
People: **But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *(1 John 1:8-9)*

Silence for self-examination on our need for the cross of Christ

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father:

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. *(John 1:12; Philippians 1:6)*

People: Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Leader: Today we light the second candle of the Advent wreath. The second candle is the candle of PEACE

(The HOPE and PEACE candles are lit.)

Leader: **John 14:27** - *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*

Leader: Let us pray. Gracious Lord, fill us with your peace, the peace found only in You, the peace beyond anything that this world can give, that in all the trials and difficulties of this life, we may rest secure in Your grace. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Musical Offering

"Will We Know Him?"
Don Besig and Nancy Price

Sanctuary Choir

Salutation and Collect

Liturgist: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

Liturgist: Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of your only-begotten Son that at his second coming we may worship him in purity; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Commissioning and Installation of Jessica Koen

Children Excused to Children's Church

Readings

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-7b

“I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the LORD Almighty.

² But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner’s fire or a launderer’s soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, ⁴ and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years.

⁵ “So I will come to put you on trial. I will be quick to testify against sorcerers, adulterers and perjurers, against those who defraud laborers of their wages, who oppress the widows and the fatherless, and deprive the foreigners among you of justice, but do not fear me,” says the LORD Almighty.

⁶ “I the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. ⁷ Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the LORD Almighty.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Second Reading: Philippians 1:2-11

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³ I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God’s grace with me. ⁸ God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹ And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Alleluia

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel: Luke 3:1-14

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—² during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.³ He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.⁴ As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.
⁵ Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill made low.
The crooked roads shall become straight,
the rough ways smooth.
⁶ And all people will see God’s salvation.’”

⁷ John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham.⁹ The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰ “What should we do then?” the crowd asked.

¹¹ John answered, “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.”

¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized. “Teacher,” they asked, “what should we do?”

¹³ “Don’t collect any more than you are required to,” he told them.

¹⁴ Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?”

He replied, “Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely—be content with your pay.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You O Christ!

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon

“The Gift of Peace”

Offering

Prayers

Please add your prayer requests to the live chat

Thanksgivings

Pastor: O Lord, we praise You.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Petitions

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,
People: **Hear our prayer.**

St. John’s People and Families

Tom, Kristi, Rachel, Brett, Jack, Samantha, & Troy Carey
Mike & Cathy Enfield
K.C., Aven, Arianna, Sophia, Zane, & Katya Kampton
Ruth Peterson
Pastor Greg & Trudi Stringer
A.C., Makayla, Kennedy, Kepa, Lawrence, & William Branco
Marc, Jennifer, & Nicole Gallo
Chris, Kelsey, & Brook Hunsaker
Ibrahima, Cathy, & Gina Ngom
Sonia Frank and Margaret Walton

The Service of Holy Communion

Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming him the Messiah, the very Lamb of God, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when he comes again in glory.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Graciously receive our prayer; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**People: 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Institution

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

Communion

Pastor: Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

People: Amen. *(Take and eat)*

Pastor: Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

People: Amen.
(Take and drink)

Communion Hymn "What Hope! An Eden Prophesied" LSB 342

What hope! An Eden prophesied	As banner of God's love unfurled,
Where tame live with the wild;	Christ came to suffer loss,
The lamb and lion side by side,	That by His death a dying world
Led by a little child!	Would rally to the cross.

A shoot will sprout from Jesse's stem,	Come, Jesus, come, Messiah Lord,
A branch from David's line,	Lost Paradise restore;
A Prince of Peace in Bethlehem:	Lead past the angel's flaming sword –
The fruit of God's design.	Come, open heaven's door.

"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord" LSB 637

1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord,	With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole,
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;	Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.
Offered was He for greatest and for least,	
Himself the victim and Himself the priest.	3 Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,
	And take the pledges of salvation here.

2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,	O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow
To all believers life eternal yields;	As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Communion Blessing

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. His peace be with you.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith through our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Prayer

Benediction

“In Christ Alone”

In Christ alone, my hope is found.
He is my light my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest droughts and storm.
What heights of love! What depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ a-lone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless Babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again.
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am His, and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the pow'r of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns, or calls me home
Here in the pow'r of Christ I stand

Offering

<http://stjohnslutheran.net/give/>

You may also mail your offering to St. John's (3521 Linda Vista, Napa, CA 94558)

Memory Verse for This Week

Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

John 14:27

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Serving in Worship Today

Preacher	Rev. Michael A. Schmid
Lay Readers	Gerry Schneider, Matthew Wahlers
Communion Assistants	Mike Newton, Paula Schweiger, Hayden Kirkman
Sound Technician	Bill Clark
Streaming Technicians	Martin Meissenhalter
Worship Preparation Team	Gerry & Midge Schneider, Ron Irwin, Jan Newton
Ushers	Christy Wood, Missy Loban
Projection Technician	Bob Klein
Organist	Erin Blackwood
Worship Band	Heidi Newman, Teresa Schmid, Steve & Judi Rock, Andrea Clark, Pastor Mike Schmid