

12/06/2020

Sunday: Advent 2, Year B

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Let me hear what you will speak, O God, for you will speak peace to your people.

Surely your salvation is at hand for those who fear you, that glory may dwell in your land.

Yea, God will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

In God's righteousness let us worship, that we may walk in the Lord's way.

Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF ADORATION:

O God of peace, your way is sure and leads to salvation. You send your Son, the promise of life eternal; your Holy Spirit guides us to truth. We hear your heralds proclaim the path of obedience, and receive your abounding grace, making firm our footsteps; we know that all is made ready to follow you faithfully. We praise you in thought, word, and deed. By your mercy, affirm your unending love for us, and in our worship make us alive in your promise. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES:

(Reader 1) We light this candle to represent the hope given to us through the promise of the Christ child. (*light first candle*)

(Reader 2) We light this second candle as a symbol of the purity of heart only God can bring. For he shall purify his people like gold and silver, until they shine forth his righteousness. (*light second candle*)

Come, Lord Jesus, come!

HYMN: Angels, from the Realms of Glory (143)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

O God of forgiveness, with our tongues we speak evil against our sisters and brothers. By our actions, we disobey your commandments. Hostility is bred through our suspicions and envy; anger continues in spite of Christ's peace. You open our eyes to his righteousness, yet we remain blind to the truth of his reconciling presence. Forgive our deliberate misuse of your mercy, and in Christ hear our prayers. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Isaiah speaks of God's comfort, of God's pardoning of iniquity, and of the coming One who shall level uneven ground and make a plain of the rough places. All the earth shall know that God's judgment is tempered by Christ's presence and peace on our behalf. In him we have assurance of pardon. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE (*honking horns, waving*)

GLORIA PATRI

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Mark 1:1-8

PRE-SERMON PRAYER

SERMON: Eternal Peace

POST-SERMON PRAYER

HYMN: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (88) (vv. 1,4,6,7)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of Heaven and Earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from Heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

MISSION STATEMENT: Our mission is to proclaim and demonstrate the inclusiveness of God's Love to the people of the Ozarks and the needy of the world.

DOXOLOGY

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

O God of our righteousness, in whose sight a thousand years are as one day, we come this day offering our gifts. Use them to spread the news that Christ comes so that all may dwell in peace. Help us to break down whatever hostility divides our sisters and brothers, and hear us as we dedicate ourselves anew to becoming your agents of reconciliation. Amen.

COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Table

This is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from north and south and from east and west to sit at the table in the kingdom of God. According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at the table with his disciples, he took the bread, blessed it, and broke it, and gave it to them. Then, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. This is the Lord's Table. Our Savior invites all those who trust in him to share the feast that he has prepared.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to praise you, O God, creator of the universe. In your wisdom, you made all things and sustain them by your power. You formed us in your image to love and serve you and to live in peace with your creation. When we rebelled against you, you did not abandon us, but sent prophets to call us back to your way. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your only Son to redeem us and heal our brokenness. Therefore, we join our voices with the choirs of heaven and with all the faithful in every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of you glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ, who was born of Mary and shared the joys and sorrows of the life that we know. You anointed Jesus Christ with your Spirit to preach good news to the poor, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, to give sight to the blind, and to liberate the oppressed, proclaiming the year of the Lord's favor. In his baptism, suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, and made a new covenant with us by water and the Spirit. Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ and that we may be his body for the world. By your Spirit, unite us with Christ and one another until we feast with him and with all your saints in your eternal realm of justice and peace. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Words of Institution

Prayer after Communion

Holy God, we thank you for this feast of grace and life. As we have been served, help us to serve our neighbors. As we have been fed, help us to feed all who are hungry. As we have been loved, help us to love the world- because in Jesus Christ you have loved us. **Amen.**

HYMN: God Be with You Till We Meet Again (542)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

TRIPLE "AMEN" (601)

POSTLUDE