

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 4, 2016

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting Time

The Prelude "Creator of the Stars of Night" Robert Lay

***Opening Songs** "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" 154
"Emmanuel, Emmanuel" 178

***A Call to Worship**

Leader: We gather with hope around the Advent wreath with hearts waiting for the Christ child. Let us gather with hearts open and hopeful.

People: Today we light the second candle, the Candle of Peace. May it be for us a reminder that Christ gives the peace which passes all understanding. Let the hope in our hearts pave the way for peace.

Leader: In the gospel of John, let us remember these words of Christ: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not let them be afraid."

People: As we light the Candle of Peace, may the candle be lit in our hearts, that we might give the peace of Christ to one another.

***Invocation Prayer** - God of us all, we are painfully aware of the world around us which is filled with strife and unrest. We confess we often live our lives in fear rather than faith. We pray that these flickers of hope and peace might light a flame in our hearts, so that others might be warmed by your love. In this time of holy waiting, let it be so. Amen.

Song of Faith "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" 191

Community and Congregational Prayer – 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and glory, forever.

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD OF THE LORD

Old Testament Reading **Isaiah 11:1-10**

Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19 **Prayer for Support for the King**

Endow the king with your justice, O God,
the royal son with your righteousness.

**May he judge your people in righteousness,
your afflicted ones with justice.**

May the mountains bring prosperity to the people,
the hills the fruit of righteousness.

**May he defend the afflicted among the people
and save the children of the needy;
may he crush the oppressor.**

May he endure as long as the sun,
as long as the moon, through all generations.

**May he be like rain falling on a mown field,
like showers watering the earth.**

In his days may the righteous flourish
and prosperity abound till the moon is no more.

**Then all nations will be blessed through him,
and they will call him blessed.**

Praise be to the Lord God, the God of Israel,
who alone does marvelous deeds.

**Praise be to his glorious name forever;
may the whole earth be filled with his glory.
Amen and Amen.**

Epistle Reading **Romans 15:4-13**

***Gospel** **Matthew 3:1-12**

*Responsorial “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” 190

Invitation to the Offering & Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Choir “Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow”

Children’s Message (Children dismissed to Junior Church)

*Scripture and Prayer Revelation 12:1-17

Message: “The Dragon that Wants to Destroy Christmas”
The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

THE SERVICE OF THE TABLE OF THE LORD

Invitation to the Lord’s Table – West Side Baptist Church practices *open communion*. This memorial meal is offered to all persons who profess faith in Jesus Christ and have been baptized. You do not need to be a member of this church to partake of the elements. Please hold each element until everyone is served, then we will feast together.

Song: “A Communion Hymn for Christmas”

The Lord’s Supper – Breaking of Bread & Passing of the Cup

RESPONDING IN FAITH & SERVICE

*Altar Call of Invitation to Faith and Fellowship – If the Spirit of God is moving you to receive God’s forgiving love in Jesus, calling you to be baptized, or encouraging you to join this Christian Church, please come to Jesus during this song.

*Song “Jesus, Name Above All Names” 177

*Closing Prayer & Spoken Benediction

*Postlude “How Brightly Shines the Morning Star”
Arranged by Geoffry Edwards



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