

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
A SEASON OF PREPARATION: PEACE!
DECEMBER 7, 2025

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Preparing for Worship: On this Second Sunday of Advent, we hear the call to prepare the way of the Lord with repentant and hopeful hearts. The Scriptures remind us that God is raising a righteous King who will bring justice, peace, and restoration to all creation. As we worship, may we open our lives to Christ's refining work and look with expectation for the coming of His kingdom.

Prelude **Joanna Cunningham, Pianist**

Welcome and Greetings in Jesus' Name **Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter**

***Opening Song (Stand) #336** **"Come, Thou Almighty King"** *ITALIAN HYMN*

***Opening Prayer (Stand)** **Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter**

Song **"Come Jesus, Come"** *Worship Team*

The Lighting of the Advent Bethlehem Candle: ***THE CANDLE OF PEACE***

Leader: In this holy season of Advent, we gather to seek the peace that Christ alone can give.

People: **We come longing for God's peace to settle in our hearts, our homes, and our world.**

Leader: The prophet declares, *"Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God."*

People: **Yet we confess that our paths are crooked, our hearts unsettled, and our relationships strained.**

Leader: God of peace, calm our restless spirits and forgive our anxious ways.

People: **Restore us, O Lord. Speak peace to your people and guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Leader: As we worship today, may the light of Christ shine upon us and lead us toward the fullness of your kingdom.

People: **Come, Prince of Peace—make your home in us, among us, with us, and for us. Amen.**

Song of Faith #175 **"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"** *VENI EMMANUEL*

WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Lonna Hersh

The First Reading **Isaiah 11:1-10**

The Second Reading **Romans 15:4-13**

Gospel Reader: Deacon Sonia Roling

***The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ (Stand)** **Matthew 3:1-12**

***Responsorial (Stand) #** **"Prepare the Way of the Lord"**

***Greeting and Sharing Peace with Family and Neighbors (Stand)**

The Children's Sermon (Children's Church for Students Preschool–3rd Grade)

Announcements & Prayers of the People

Presentation of Tithes, Gifts, and Donations – As we bring our gifts today, we remember the prophet's promise: "A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse... and the Spirit of the Lord shall rest on him" (Isaiah 11:1–2). In gratitude for the One who brings hope and renewal, let us offer our lives and our resources to God with joyful expectation.

Offertory **"See How Bright He Shines"** **Chancel Choir**
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A Prayer of Illumination & Message

The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

WE FEAST AT THE TABLE OF THE LORD

Invitation to the Table of the Lord[†] (Servers Prepare)

Communion Song #402 **"A Communion Hymn for Christmas"** *GREENRIDGE*

Words of Institution and The Lord’s 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, the power, and the glory forever.

Holy Communion: The Lord’s Supper
Breaking of Bread *The Body of Christ; The Bread of Heaven*
Passing of the Cup *The Blood of Christ; The Cup of Salvation*

WE RESPOND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH AND SERVICE

Invitation to Faith and Fellowship

***Hymn (Stand) # 599** **“Soon and Very Soon”** *SOON AND VERY SOON*

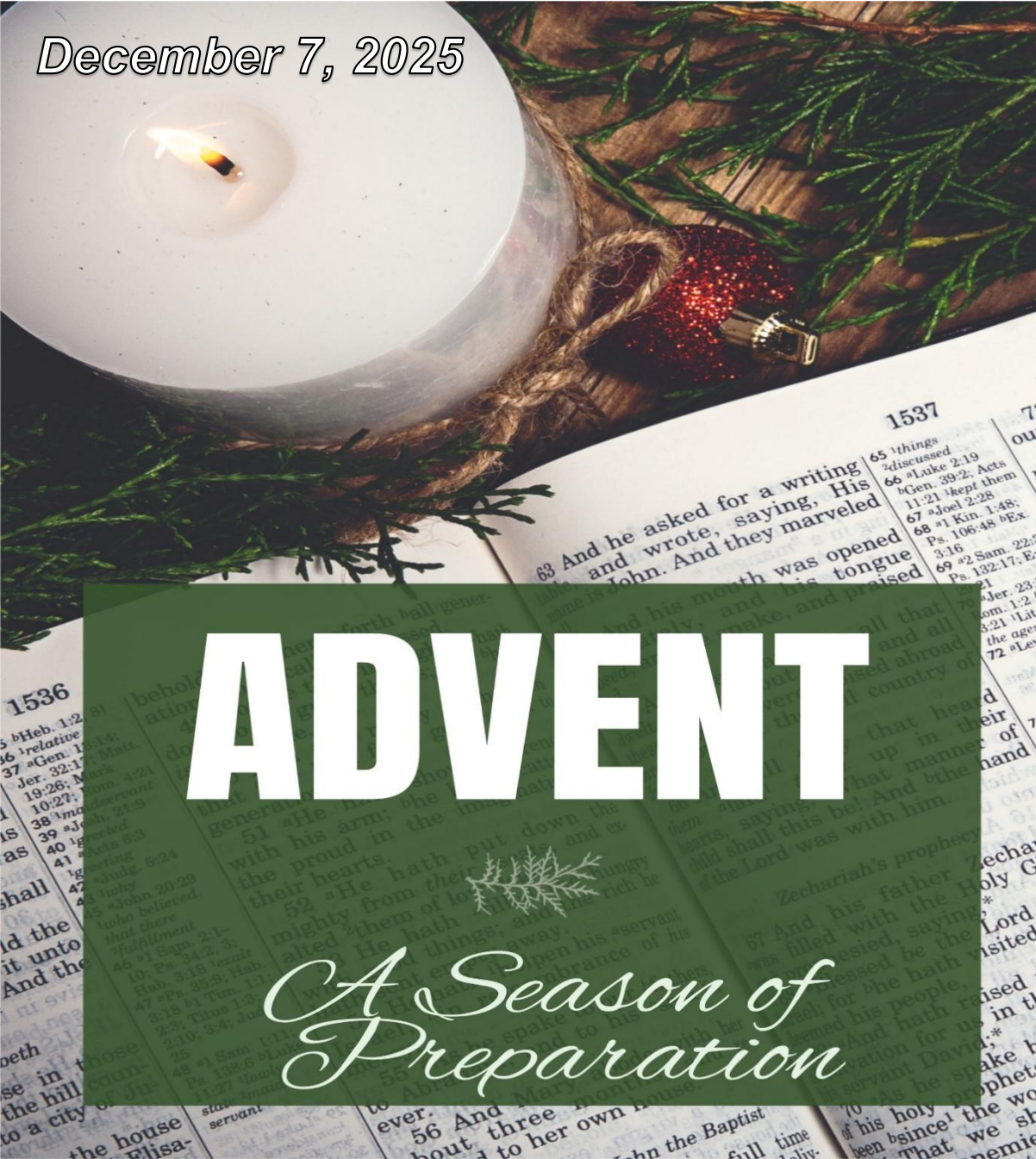
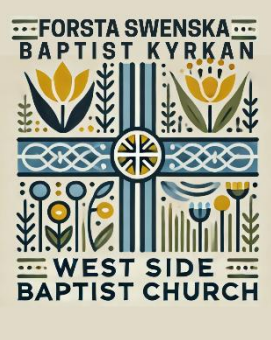
***Spoken Benediction** **Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter**

Postlude **Joanna Cunningham, Pianist**



HOW TO JOIN THIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH - COME FORWARD – Any person professing faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and accepting the Baptist principles, practices, and the covenant of this church, may join this Christian church. Persons interested in affiliating should speak with the Pastor or come forward at a congregation meeting. A person may join by Believer’s Baptism, Letter of Transfer from a previous Christian church with prior baptism, or a Satisfactory Statement of Christian Faith.

OUR MISSION – We love God and We love People by sharing the Good News of God’s forgiving, renewing love in Jesus Christ by word and deed to improve the lives of neighbors. West Side Baptist Church is an independent, autonomous Christian church partnering for mission support with like-minded people of faith in our City, County, State, Nation, and World.



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