



Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020

Welcome to Worship and Announcements

Prelude

\*Lighting of the Advent Wreath - "Light of Hope" arr. by Joel Raney

Responsive Reading for Second Sunday - The Gift of Peace

- L On this Advent journey, we are mindful of the brokenness of the world that surrounds us.  
C **We long for the peace that surpasses all understanding.**  
L As we look around us, we see the hostility that exists between neighbor and nation.  
C **We long for the peace that surpasses all understanding.**  
L As we look beside us, we see fractured relationships and unforgiving hearts.  
C **We long for the peace that surpasses all understanding.**  
L As we look within ourselves, we confess the reconciling words we have yet to speak and restoring deeds we have yet to do.  
C **We long for the peace that surpasses all understanding.**

© 2012 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188 - One License: A-727907

Congregation:

Light of life, Mak - er of day, gath - er our  
sha - dows and cast them a - way. Bea - con of  
truth, gleam - ing and bright, shine in our  
hearts, shat - ter our night.

\*Please stand as you are able.

**\*Confession and Forgiveness:**

Pastor: Blessed be God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever.

**Congregation: Amen.**

P Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

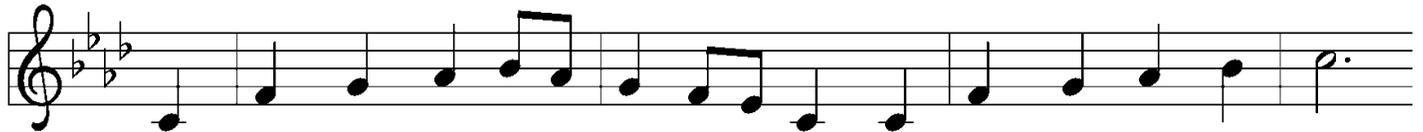
P Loving and forgiving God,

**C we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.**

P People of God, hear this glad news: by God's endless grace your sins are forgiven, and you are free—free from all that holds you back and free to live in the peaceable realm of God. May you be strengthened in God's love, + comforted by Christ's peace, and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

**\*Gathering Hymn: "The King Shall Come" ELW 260**



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phunt breaks,  
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,  
3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose  
4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race  
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.  
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.  
and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.  
the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

One License: A-727907

**\*Greeting:**

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** And also with you.

**\*Prayer of the Day:**

**All** Let us pray: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Kids Word:** Pastor Jerry O'Neal

**Our first reading is from Isaiah 40:1-11**

*In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. God will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for the sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of God.*

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.

<sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her  
that she has served her term,  
that her penalty is paid,  
that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup>A voice cries out:  
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

<sup>5</sup>Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

<sup>6</sup>A voice says, "Cry out!"  
And I said, "What shall I cry?"  
All people are grass,  
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

<sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades,  
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;  
surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades;  
but the word of our God will stand forever.

\*Please stand as you are able.

<sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain,  
O Zion, herald of good tidings;  
lift up your voice with strength,  
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,  
lift it up, do not fear;  
say to the cities of Judah,  
“Here is your God!”  
<sup>10</sup>See, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.  
<sup>11</sup>He will feed his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
and carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead the mother sheep.

L Word of God. Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13** (Read responsively between Lector and **Congregation**.)

<sup>1</sup>You have been gracious to your land, O LORD;  
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.  
<sup>2</sup>**You have forgiven the iniquity of your people  
and blotted out all their sins.**  
<sup>8</sup>I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;  
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.  
<sup>9</sup>**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,  
that your glory may dwell in our land.**  
<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.  
<sup>11</sup>**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**  
<sup>12</sup>The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,  
and our land will yield its increase.  
<sup>13</sup>**Righteousness shall go before the LORD  
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

## **Our second reading is from 2 Peter 3:8-15a**

*This short letter deals with pressing concerns regarding the final advent of Jesus, especially concerns that could arise over its apparent delay. The author of the letter calls on Christians to anticipate the promised coming of the Lord through conduct dedicated to God.*

<sup>8</sup>Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

<sup>11</sup>Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? <sup>13</sup>But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; <sup>15a</sup>and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

L      Word of God. Word of life.                      C      **Thanks be to God.**

## **\*Gospel Reading: Mark 1:1-8**

*The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.*

P      The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

C      **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,  
"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;

<sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,'"

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

P      This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C      **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon:** – Pastor Jerry O'Neal

**\*Hymn of the Day: "There's a Voice in the Wilderness" ELW 255**

1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a  
 2 O Je - ru - sa - lem, her - ald good tid - ings, as -  
 3 But the word of our Sav - ior is faith - ful, the

call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a  
 cend to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late  
 arm of our God is strong, who stands in the midst of the

high - way, a high - way for our God!  
 peo - ple, the com - ing of their king.  
 na - tions and soon will right the wrong.

The val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the  
 Like flow'rs of the field we per - ish, like  
 Lord, feed your flock like a shep - herd, the

loft - y hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed  
 grass our works de - cay; the pow'r and the pomp of  
 lambs so gent - ly hold; in pas - tures of peace now

plac - es where God, our God, may go!  
 na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way.  
 lead them, and bring them to your fold.

Text: James Lewis Milligan, 1876-1961, alt.  
 Music: ASCENSION, Henry Hugh Bancroft, 1904-1988  
 Music © Estate of Eldred Bancroft. B. Burrows, Executor.

Public Domain

**\*Apostles' Creed:**

**P&C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*Please stand as you are able.

**\*Prayers:** (Congregation's response in bold type.)

L For our prayers today, I will conclude each petition with "Hear us, O God," and your response is, "Your mercy is great."

God of power and might, comfort your people and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

*A brief silence.*

Faithful God, you teach us to wait for you with faithfulness and patience. Sustain and support us in our doubts and questions. Nurture our faith as we discern and enact your mission. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Loving God, you set the stars in the sky and breathe life into the earth. Renew the face of creation where it is in need of your healing touch. Mend the wounds of environmental damage and restore balance to ecosystems so that all creation can declare your praise. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Steadfast God, you never tire of seeking justice. Where people suffer from discrimination, judgment, and injustice, speak words of truth and comfort. Lead us toward a world where faithfulness will sprout underfoot and righteousness rain down from above. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Leading God, you ask us to make uneven ground smooth. Make even the disparities between your people. Sustain and support people with physical and intellectual disabilities. Accompany disability advocates who work for a world accessible to all. Teach us to celebrate the great diversity in our midst. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Tender God, you know sorrow and joy alike. We pray for those in our families and congregation who are not joyful in this holiday season. Comfort those who grieve, be a companion to all who are lonely, tend those who are sick or struggling with depression, and gather all people in your healing embrace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Comforting God, we pray for those who have COVID-19 Coronavirus and for the frontline workers who are putting their health at risk for caring for those who are in the hospital. Give wisdom and resources to those who are working on a vaccine that will hopefully bring an end to this pandemic. Give the gift of hope and healing to those who are sick, injured or suffering in the world and to those we now name either aloud or in the silence of our hearts (pause). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Eternal God, we give thanks for the saints who have prepared your way in the wilderness and taught us to continue their faithful work. Make their generous lives an example for all. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

\*Please stand as you are able.

**\*Sharing the Peace:**

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

**Offering:**

If you would like to give electronically, you may

1. Download the ELCA Giving App from Google Store or Apple Play, or
2. Go to our website [www.holytrinitylutheranchurch.com](http://www.holytrinitylutheranchurch.com) and click on the green "Give" button.
3. Using your bank's online BillPay features.

Thank you for your support of Holy Trinity and our ministries!

**Offering Music:** "Savior of the Nations, Come" arr. by Ambrose/Luther/Reynolds

**\*Offering Prayer:**

L Let us pray: Generous God, you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray.

C **Amen.**

**\*Lord's Prayer:**

L Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. (Lord's Prayer)

**All 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.**

**\*Sending Call and Response:**

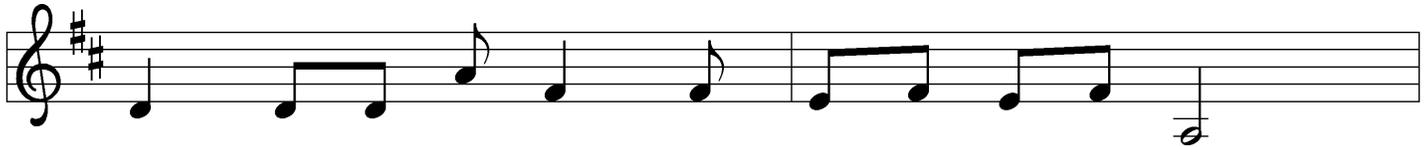
L God's work!  
C **Our hands!**  
L God's love!  
C **Our hearts!**  
L God's story!  
C **Our voices!**

**\*Benediction:**

P "Barocha" - Michael Card  
C **Amen.**



\*Sending Hymn: "All Earth Is Hopeful" ELW 266



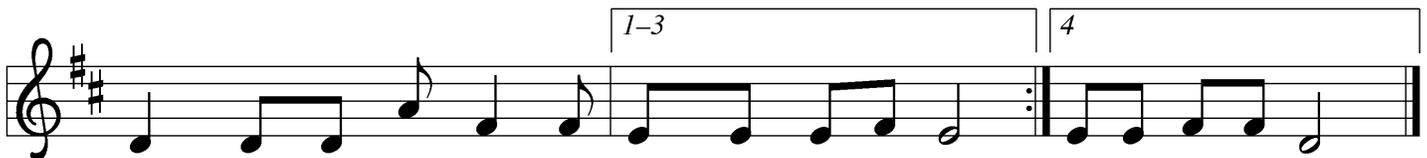
*To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor*  
 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!  
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:  
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;  
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



*y el sur - co a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el*  
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the  
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -  
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most  
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



*mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -*  
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how  
 ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -  
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All  
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



*cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.*  
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.  
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.  
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!  
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946

One License: A-727907

Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé

Spanish text and tune © 1993 and English text © 1995 Centro de Pastoral Litúrgica, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

**\*Dismissal:**

L Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**Announcements for Sunday, December 6, 2020:**

**Birthdays and Anniversaries for the week of December 6<sup>th</sup>:**

Birthdays:

December 7 – Diane Calvin

December 8 – Laura Duncan

December 10 - Stanley Wenger

December 11 - Mike Metzcar

December 12 - Ruth Dailey

Anniversaries:

No Anniversaries on record this week.

**This week's Prayers:** Please keep the following people in your prayers.

Nancy Wagner

Karen Wenger's family

Those who are infected with the COVID-19 Coronavirus and the frontline workers who are caring for them.

**Children's Christmas Pageant goes virtual!!**

Inviting all kids (HTLC kids and grandchildren and friends of HTLC members) to participate in the Christmas pageant. Here's how it works. Request a part by texting Ann Simpson 765-729-7147. You can request a specific part such as Mary, Joseph, angel, shepherd, wise man etc or a part will be assigned. The reading will be sent to you via technology or mailed to you. Your child will probably want to dress the part so either use items from your own home or we will be happy to provide a costume for your child!!! Then have your child read the part, video tape on your phone and text the recording back to Ann Simpson or send per church e-mail address at [holytrinitymuncie@gmail.com](mailto:holytrinitymuncie@gmail.com). If your child cannot read have them act the part while an adult reads. Recordings need to be returned by December 10. BE CREATIVE!!!! Imperfections expected!!!

**Wednesdays Evenings during Advent:**

Pr. Jerry will be on Facebook Live on Wednesday evenings beginning at 7:00pm on December 2, December 9, December 16 and December 23. Each week during Advent he will lead a Holden Evening Prayer Service. Here is the link below for Holy Trinity's Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/HTLCMuncie/>

If you would like to purchase a Holden Evening Prayer booklet in PDF format, they can be found at GIA Publications using the link below for \$1.40:

<https://www.giamusic.com/store/resource/holden-evening-prayer-assembly-edition-print-g9170a>

\*Please stand as you are able.

## **Christmas Eve Worship Services: Virtual and Outdoor, In-Person:**

This Christmas Eve we will offer a virtual and an outdoor, in-person worship services.

### **Virtual Option:**

Beginning on Christmas Eve at 4:00pm you will be able to watch, at home, Holy Trinity's pre-recorded worship service on Facebook, YouTube, or on our website. (See the above article, "Virtual Worship Services," for the links.)

### **Outdoors, In-Person Option:**

And for those who want to brave the cold, at 8:00pm at Holy Trinity, you may join Pr. Jerry outside around the cross for a worship service by candlelight. Masks and social distancing will be mandatory. Bring an umbrella if it is raining and dress warmly.

## **Holy Trinity's Next Book Club Read:**

"Caste, The Origins of our Discontents" by Isabel Wilkerson will be the next book we will be discussing on **December 15 at 7:00pm via Zoom**. This book is a best seller which is a deeply researched narrative and has stories about real people, how America today and throughout its history has been shaped by a hidden caste system. Join us for an interesting conversation on how this has affected life in the USA and around the world. All are invited to share their thoughts .

The zoom connection is:

<https://zoom.us/j/6616571423?pwd=b3NqMldPTXkxS0RuOXZ3RVNabC9rUT09>

GENEROSITY  
MAKES A DIFFERENCE



## **Please Help Us Reach Our Goal of receiving 100 Intent Forms for 2021:**

The intent form can be accessed online using the QR code above (next to the Generosity Makes A Difference logo) or you can use this link:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc6qnR13AcR8lDzzC-rWeg-Kp3U\\_jMM8Eavy63zOjoTKAPSqw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc6qnR13AcR8lDzzC-rWeg-Kp3U_jMM8Eavy63zOjoTKAPSqw/viewform)

Our goal this year is to receive *100 intent forms*; an anonymous donor at Holy Trinity has graciously offered us a **\$2,000 challenge gift** if we can reach that goal. They believe in our ministries here, and we trust that you do as well. We hope you will join us in this important campaign. Thank you so much for your ongoing support. Your GENEROSITY MAKES A DIFFERENCE!