


# Worship on Advent 2, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014

PRE- SERVICE CAROL SING, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE


ONE: On the first Sunday of Advent, we lit a candle for Hope.  
Today, we light a candle for Peace.

**ALL: As the flame of peace begins to burn,  
and you reach out with your hearts and hands  
to touch those around you,  
let your heart be touched  
by the Sacred Spirit  
who comes to us now  
as the Holy Child of Peace.  
We light this candle.**

 Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,  
giving a promise of safety and worth.  
When God is a child there's joy in our song  
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong  
and none shall be afraid.

ONE: For our prayer, let's open our hands  
and close our eyes  
and listen for God's Spirit  
in the silence.

**ALL: Let your Spirit burn in our hearts;  
let your Light shine in our world;  
and as we wait through the Advent season  
for the baby Jesus' birth,  
let your ribbon of Peace  
draw us together into a circle of love  
where the Christ can be born today.**

 Put peace into each other's hands  
and like a treasure hold it,  
protect it like a candle flame,  
with tenderness enfold it.

ONE: May the Peace of Christ be with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

♪ Joy to the world! the Lord is come:  
let earth receive her King!  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

OFFERING and PRESENTATION

♪ What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would be a lamb,  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give him – give my heart.

DEDICATION PRAYER

ONE: What do you bring today?

ALL: We bring the gift of a message,  
a message of peace and joy,  
a message of a child born to change the world.

ONE: All glory be to God. Amen.

Children's Time – "The Gift" by Ted Nichols

HYMN 43 'Go Tell It On the Mountain' (*projected*)

HYMN MV 158 'Dream a Dream' (*projected*)

SCRIPTURE

**Isaiah 40:1-11**The Message (MSG)

<sup>1-2</sup> "Comfort, oh comfort my people," says your God.

"Speak softly and tenderly to Jerusalem, but also make it very clear

That she has served her sentence, that her sin is taken care of—forgiven!

She's been punished enough and more than enough, and now it's over and done with."<sup>3-5</sup> Thunder in the desert!" Prepare for GOD's arrival!

Make the road straight and smooth, a highway fit for our God. (*over...!*)

Fill in the valleys, level off the hills, Smooth out the ruts, clear out the rocks. Then GOD's bright glory will shine and everyone will see it. Yes. Just as GOD has said."

<sup>6-8</sup> A voice says, "Shout!" I said, "What shall I shout?" "These people are nothing but grass, their love fragile as wildflowers.

The grass withers, the wildflowers fade, if GOD so much as puffs on them. Aren't these people just so much grass? True, the grass withers and the wildflowers fade, but our God's Word stands firm and forever."

<sup>9-11</sup> Climb a high mountain, Zion. You're the preacher of good news.

Raise your voice. Make it good and loud, Jerusalem. You're the preacher of good news. Speak loud and clear. Don't be timid!

Tell the cities of Judah, "Look! Your God!" Look at him! GOD, the Master, comes in power, ready to go into action.

He is going to pay back his enemies and reward those who have loved him. Like a shepherd, he will care for his flock, gathering the lambs in his arms, Hugging them as he carries them, leading the nursing ewes to good pasture.

**Mark 1:1-8** (*New Revised Standard Version*)

## **The Proclamation of John the Baptist**

<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. (*over...!*)

<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.”

MUSIC MINISTRY - WOMEN’S CHOIR

SERMON – “THE MESSENGER” – RACHEL CAMPBELL

HYMN 2 – “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

MINUTE FOR MISSION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN 427 – “To Show by Touch and Word”

BLESSING AND CONCLUDING PRAISE

## **Go Now In Peace**

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*Put Peace Into Each Other’s Hands* Words: Fred Kaan. Music: Ron Klusmeier © 2004 Hope Pub. Co.

Advent Liturgy - Jim Allan, Camrose U.C., Camrose, Alta. (First published in *Gathering, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany*, 2005–2006.)

Dedication Prayer - Susan Lukey, High River U.C., High River, Alta. (First published in *Gathering, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany*, 2004–2005.)