



HOPE

PEACE

All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace.

St Andrew Worship December 12, 2021

Dial- 669 900 9128
Meeting ID 831 688 4211
Password 9850
Use *6 to unmute your phone

Meeting Times
Sunday at 10:30 Worship

Introit *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* arr. by Sandra Eithun **Bell Choir**

Welcome and Announcements **Minute 4 Mission Volunteers** **Myles Billheimer**

Lighting the Advent Candle

The Lord your God is in your midst, rejoicing over you with gladness, renewing you in love. I will bring you home and restore your fortunes, says the Lord.

In this new light, we give thanks to the Lord.

With joy you will draw waters from the wells of salvation.

We will rejoice in the Lord always.

We light a third candle to reveal the pathway to faithfulness.

As a covenant people we will seek to live in the joy of the Lord.

Advent Song

Light the Advent candle, three:

Heavenly harmony;

Angels singing "Peace on earth"

At the blessed Savior's birth.

Candle, candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold night; candle, candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.

Opening Prayer

You challenge us this Advent time

This season of preparation

To put aside our pride

And understand our need

For repentance

Forgiveness

And mercy

Less of self

More of you

Preparation for our journey

To the stable and beyond

Purify our hearts

Sanctify our lives

That we might serve you

Faithfully this day and all days. Amen

Hymn 88 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel vs. 1, 5, 6, 7*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Prayer of Confession (based on 1 Thess. 5:16-24)

God of mercy, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world.

Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Please set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. We offer our silent prayers of confession to you now... Time for silent reflection.

Assurance of Grace

Sisters and brothers in Christ, the promise is true: God loves us. God forgives us. God is coming to us even now to save us. Thanks be to God. Alleluia! *Amen.*

Anthem

Carol of the Bells arr. by Douglas Wagner

Bell Choir

Prayers of the People *Lord Listen to Your Children Praying*

Hymn 96 *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh; awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be every life from sin; make straight the way for God within, and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.

We hail you as our Savior, Lord, our refuge and our great reward; without your grace we waste away like flowers that wither and decay.

Stretch forth your hand; our health restore, and make us rise to fall no more. O let your face upon us shine and fill the world with love divine.

Prayer for Illumination

Speak to us, Lord.
Speak to us in the waiting, the watching,
the hoping, the longing,
the sorrow, the sighing, the rejoicing.
Speak to us by your Word in these Advent days,
and walk with us until the day of your coming. *Amen.*

First Lesson: Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

Second Lesson: Luke 3:7-18

⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” ¹¹ In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” ¹³ He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” ¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Affirmation

*We believe in God, creator and lover of the earth, origin and destiny of us all.
We believe in Jesus the Christ—God coming to us in the fragile promise of a baby yet unborn— who emerges as the herald of hope, God's laughter in the face of despair.
Plunged into death and hell, he broke free the captives, and is leading the way to the land of promise, where justice and peace will flourish.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, who implants the seed of truth, brings us to birth as the body of Christ, and empowers us to confront and transform all that is corrupt, degrading and deceitful.
We believe in the coming reign of God. Announced by the Baptist, it has drawn near to us in Jesus, and will be consummated in the glorious marriage of earth and heaven, when all who have passed through the world's deep sorrow will be raised from the waters, robed in righteousness, and gathered into the joyous fulfilment of God's desire.*

*For the coming of that day on this day, we work and pray:
Come, Lord Jesus, Come!*

Offering *Sing We Now of Christmas* arr. by Eileen Mihm **Bell Choir**

Doxology
Offering Prayer
Holy One, this Advent season we wait in peace,
And we give in peace.
A peace deeper than our anxiety and fear.
A peace growing from our trust in your loving power.
Receive these generous offerings,
And use them to bring your peace to our world. Amen.

Hymn 123 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear vs. 1, 3, 5

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gracious King": the world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long; beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled two thousand years of wrong; And we at war on earth hear not the tidings that they bring; O, hush the noise and cease the strife to hear the angels sing!

For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old, when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold, When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

Benediction