

Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023

9:30 AM

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Gathering

Welcome

Procession

Prelude

Lois Hunter

\*Call to Worship

One: In this season of Advent, we remember that Christ is coming to bring peace.  
For a world overrun with meaningless war.

**All: Christ is coming to bring peace.**

One: For brothers and sisters divided by anger.

**All: Christ is coming to bring peace.**

One: For a world bound up in political turmoil.

**All: Christ is coming to bring peace.**

One: For those of us battling inner turmoil.

**All: Christ is coming to bring peace.**

\*Opening Hymn

Advent Candle Lighting

Today we light two candles. The first is the light of hope. The second is the symbol of peace. We remember what god said to the shepherds on the night of Christ's birth promises peace on earth and goodwill to all the people of earth. May we become the instruments to fulfill this promise.

*Two purple candles are lit.*

**O Lord, in this troubled world we live in, bring the peace that was promised through the birth of your son, Jesus Christ. Calm our anxious souls and let us live in harmony with our family, our neighbors, and ourselves. We pray this in Christ's name. Amen.**

\*Opening Prayer

**O God, whose will is justice for the poor and peace for the afflicted, let your herald's urgent voice pierce our hardened hearts and announce the dawn of your kingdom. Before the Advent of the one who baptizes with the fire of the Holy Spirit, let our complacency give way to conversion, oppression to justice, and conflict to acceptance of one another in Christ. We pray this through your Son and our Savior. Amen.**

Joys and Concerns

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Reading

2 Peter 3:8-15a

\*Hymn

Scripture Reading

Mark 1:1-8

Sermon

*Leading Lives of Holiness and Godliness*

Pastor Sam

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

\*Closing Hymn

\*Blessing and Benediction

\*Recessional

Postlude

Lois Hunter

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**We invite you to keep the following people in your prayers:**

Joan Alsever, Family of Maryann Ayd, Family of Paulette Ayd, Miriam Baker, Tammy Baskaran, Bob Reed's cousin Lydia, Bruce Beckman, **Frannie Beckman**, Family of Sherry Billings, Rob Brandt, Michael Brick, family of Michael Britt, Libby Bowerman, Amanda Buckley, Roy Callahan, Carolyn's daughter Debbie, **JoAnn Cook**, Family of Chris Davis, Steve Dawson, Family of Bill Dietz, Anna Doynov, Susan Getty, Tim Eichhorn, Family of Paula Farina, Pat Finley, Taliyah Fitzgerald, Family of Baby Graham Geschke, Lynn Gibbons, Family of Karen Goles, Brenda and Georges Guerrier, **Donna Hesson**, Lynah Guile, Amy Humphrey, Family of Pauline Jackson, Mark Hardy, Family of Billy Hughes, Jim Hobson, Ellie Hunter, Lois Hunter, **Ouita Jackson**, Family of Dean Jestes, Family of Claire Kelly, Family of David Kirchner, **Gene Kolnowski**, Jan Lambert, Family of Patty Leupen, Laurel's Mom and Dad, Billy Lewis, Karen Martin, Ed Massey, **Tiny Massey**, **Butch Lichliter**, Lisa McClay, Family of Tom Melkus, Mary Michael, Craig Moore, Kathy Moore, Kathy Mullins, Family of Pete Murdza, Mark Nicholson, Gail Phillips Smith and Miles Smith, Michael Smith, Theresa Schmitt and the Mullins children, Larry and Jackie Paulus, Linda Playdon, Joyce Ritter, Bob Reed, Family of Doris Rhinehart, Dana Rosendahl, Russell Rueling, Bob Russel, Jim Bob Schultze, Family of Ed Scott, Pat Sievers, Jean Steigleman, Bob Spicher, Bob Smith, Lisa Summers, Sharon Truedel, Debbie Webb, Don Weinberg, Family of Harding Wescott, Bud Whitehead, family of Jamie Whitehead, family of Mary Francis Whitehead, Shannon Whitehead, Gertie Williams, Family of JoEllen Williams, Family of Reds Williams, Tom Wimsatt, Diane Withers, Family of Larry Wright, Jimmy Wylie, Family of Tony Zile

**Long-term prayer concerns:** Karyn Brandel, Jerry Fowler, Shirly Graham, Richard Giffin, Carrie Harrison, Robin Jones, Barbara Maury, Anna Catherine Miller, Dustin Summers, Ryan Whitehead and his family

**Thank you** to our Greeters and Ushers – Shannon and Ron Whitehead

**Thank you** to our Liturgist – Brooks Morton

**Upcoming Events**

- **Sunday December 17 – Marriotts Ridge Chamber Choir at Gary Memorial – 11:30 AM**
- **Sunday December 24**
  - **4th Sunday of Advent service – Emory 9:30 AM**
  - **Christmas Eve Candlelight – GM 5:30 PM**
  - **Christmas Eve Candlelight – Emory 7:30 PM**
- **Sunday December 31 – combined service at Emory at 10 AM**