

Advent 2 - A Season of

PEACE

*Welcome to our home!
We would love for you to
join our family!*

December 8, 2024



We Gather for Worship

Advent Candle Lighting

Reader 1: According to tradition, each candle has a special meaning. The second one is called the candle of peace. We are the followers of that root of Jesse Isaiah speaks of. We are the ones who are now called to stand as a signal to the world, to all of creation, that peace is the will of the one who created us. Peace is the knowledge of the Lord that we proclaim throughout the world.

Reader 2: We light these candles, the candle of hope and the candle of peace, in part to remind ourselves that we are a people rising toward God's promise. But we also light them as a sign to the world, an announcement there are some who hold on to hope and there are some who work the ways of peace. We stand as a sign that Emmanuel is still our fervent prayer.

During this week, take a moment each day to reflect on God's peace during this season of preparation. **Amen.**

After sharing, the first two blue candles are lit and all say:

People: **Two candles, burning bright, chasing away the darkness for light.
Two candles, glowing light, the blessing of God, giving new sight.**

Opening Hymn: #64 ***O heavenly Word, eternal Light*** *Please stand & sing as you are able.*

Opening Sentences

BCP Page 78

Officiant: Watch, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning, lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. *Mark 13:35-36*

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. *Isaiah 40:3*

Confession

BCP Page 79

Please sit or kneel.

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Officiant: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Invitatory

BCP Page 80

Please stand as you are able.

Officiant: O Lord, open our lips;

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

All: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia!**

Advent Antiphon

Officiant: Our King and Savior draws near:

People: **Come let us adore him.**

Jubilate: Psalm 100

BCP Page 82

Officiant: Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *

People: **serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.**

Officiant: Know this: The Lord himself is God; *

People: **he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

Officiant: Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; *

People: **give thanks to him and call upon his Name.**

Officiant: For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; *

People: **and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Advent Antiphon

Officiant: Our King and Savior draws near:

People: **Come let us adore him.**

Canticle 16: The Song of Zechariah

(Luke 1: 68-79) BCP Page 92

Chanted in unison.



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All: **Blessed be the Lord, the God of ¹ Israel; * |
he has come to his people and set them ¹ free. ||**

**He has raised up for us a mighty ¹ savior, * |
born of the house of his servant ¹ David. ||**

**Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our ¹ enemies, * |
from the hands of all who hate ¹ us. ||**

**He promised to show mercy to our ¹ fathers * |
and to remember his holy ¹ covenant. ||**

**This was the oath he swore to our father ¹ Abraham, * |
to set us free from the hands of our ¹ enemies, ||**

**Free to worship him without ¹ fear, * |
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our ¹ life. ||**

**You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most ¹ High, * |
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ¹ way, ||**

**To give his people knowledge of ¹ salvation * |
by the forgiveness of their ¹ sins. ||**

**In the tender compassion of our ¹ God * |
the dawn from on high shall break upon ¹ us, ||**

**To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of^l death, * |
and to guide our feet into the way of^l peace. ||**

Officiant: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

People: **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

We Hear God's Word

First Lesson: Malachi 3:1-4

Please be seated

Reader: A reading from the Prophet Malachi.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 12: A Song of Creation Benedicite: Song of the Three Young Men 35-65

*In Unison
(Invocation)*

All: **Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord,
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord,
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

(I The Cosmic Order)

**Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord,
O heavens and all waters above the heavens.**

**Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord,
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew,
all winds and fire and heat.**

**Winter and summer, glorify the Lord,
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold,
drops of dew and flakes of snow.**

**Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord,
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, O nights and days,
O shining light and enfolding dark.**

**Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord,
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

(II The Earth and its Creatures)

**Let the earth glorify the Lord,
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, O mountains and hills, and all that grows upon the earth,
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, O springs of water, seas, and streams,
O whales and all that move in the waters.**

**All birds of the air, glorify the Lord,
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild,
and all you flocks and herds.**

**O men and women everywhere, glorify the Lord,
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

(Doxology)

**Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord,
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

Second Lesson: Philippians 1:3-11

Reader: A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn: #65

***Prepare the way, O Zion
(v. 1-2 before, v. 3 after Gospel)***

Please stand and sing.

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Please remain standing as you are able.

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, 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. 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; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Homily: Stephen Bradley

Please be seated.

Apostles' Creed

BCP Page 96

Please stand as you are able.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

We Pray

Lord's Prayer

BCP Page 97

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Suffrages: Set A

BCP Page 97.

Please be seated

Officiant: Show us your mercy, O Lord;

People: **And grant us your salvation.**

Officiant: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

People: **Let your people sing with joy.**

Officiant: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

People: **For only in you can we live in safety.**

Officiant: Lord, keep this nation under your care;

People: **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Officiant: Let your way be known upon earth;

People: **Your saving health among all nations.**

Officiant: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

People: **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Officiant: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People: **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

Collect of the Day

The collect prayer "collects" the themes from the various readings for the day.

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray. Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Collect for Sundays

BCP Page 98

Officiant: O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for Renewal of Life

BCP Page 99

Officiant: O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for Peace

BCP Page 99

Officiant: O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for Grace

BCP Page 100

Officiant: Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for Guidance

BCP Page 100

Officiant: Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for the Parish and Search Process

BCP Page 817

Officiant: Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life and bring us all to be of one heart and mind, especially as we go through our search process. Guide us to the priest that you want us to have; through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Collect for Mission

BCP Page 100

Officiant: Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Please sit or kneel.

Reader: Bound together in Christ in the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us pray with one heart and mind to God our Father.

Reader: For peace from things that separate us from one another and for our salvation.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader: For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, especially...

People: **St. John's, Woodward; Grace, Yukon; Diocese of Massachusetts; Diocese of New Hampshire; Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan.**

Reader: For this holy gathering and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and fear of God.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader: For...

People: **Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Poulson, our Bishop; Tom, our clergy; Katherine and B.J., our wardens; vestry, delegates, all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God. Lord, have mercy.**

Reader: For the world and its leaders, our nation and its people. We pray for our leaders, especially...

People: **Joe, our President; Donald, our President-elect; Kamala, our Vice-president; JD, our Vice-President-elect; Josh, our Congressman; James and Markwayne, our Senators; Kevin, our Governor; and Patrick, our Mayor. Lord, have mercy.**

Reader: For prisoners, the oppressed, all those in need or suffering, especially...

People: **Ronnie, Mike, John, Stuart, Nancy, Catheryne, Jennifer, Paula, Ched, Phillip, Roger, Patricia, Leslie, Anna, Pam, Jonathan, D.G., Lester, Mark, those impacted by war and violence, all emergency responders, United States Military, and those whose suffering is known only to God.**

Reader: We pray for those who have died, (*especially...*)

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader: For ourselves, our families, and those we love. We pray for those in our parish, especially...

People: **B.J., Evelyn, Ken, Sylvia, Terry, and Jamie.**

Reader: Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

Please stand as you are able.

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Greet one another in the name of Christ. Please return to your seats when you hear the bell.

Announcements, Birthdays & Anniversary Prayers *BCP Page 830*

Please be seated.

Welcome to our guests today. If you are new to Grace for the first time or even if you have been here once or twice before, please fill out a visitor card and put it in the plate. We promise not to harass you, but we would like to include you on our weekly email broadcasts and other event notifications. Thank you for the blessing of your presence today.

For a Birthday

BCP Page 830

Officiant: Let us pray. Watch over thy child, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide they wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Offertory Anthem:

The King Shall Come

Remain seated.

We Go Out To Do Our Work

Prayer of St. Chrysostom

BCP Page 102

All: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Sending

BCP Page 102

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Officiant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

2 Corinthians 13:14

Closing Hymn: LEVAS #183

Be not dismayed whate'er betide

Please stand and sing.

1. Be not dis-mayed_ what - e'er be - tide, God will take care of you;—
2. Through days of toil___ when heart doth fail, God will take care of you;—
3. All you may need___ He will pro- vide, God will take care of you;—
4. No mat - ter what___ may be the test, God will take care of you;—

1. Be - neath His wings___ of love a - bide, God will take care of you.____
2. When dan - gers fierce___ your path as - sail, God will take care of you.____
3. Noth - ing you ask___ will be de - nied, God will take care of you.____
4. Lean, wea - ry one,___ up - on His breast, God will take care of you.____

God will take care of you, Through ev - 'ry day, O'er all the way;

He will take care___ of you, God will take care___ of you.____

Words: Civilla D. Martin (1869-1948). Music: W. Stillman Martin (1862-1935).



2024 *Holiday Services:*

December 8, 2024

Advent 2
Morning Prayer
10:30 AM

December 15, 2024

Advent 3
Holy Eucharist
10:30 AM

December 18, 2024

Blue Christmas
(in the Chapel)
6:30 PM

December 22, 2024

Advent 4
Lessons & Carols
10:30 AM

December 24, 2024

Christmas Eve
Holy Eucharist
9:00 PM



Poinsettias for the 2024 Christmas Altar

A suggested minimum donation for each poinsettia is \$20. Please make checks payable to: Grace Episcopal Church with altar guild on the memo line and place it, along with this form, into the offering plate or bring/mail it to the Parish Office.

Name of Donor: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

All donations must be received in the office no later than **Monday, December 18th**, in order to be listed in the Christmas bulletin.



Advent Activity for Week 3:
Cookie Decorating

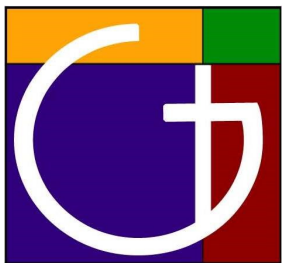
Wednesday,
December 11th, @ 6:30PM

We will decorate holiday cookies for meals
on wings (and some to take home)

Advent Activity for Week 4:
Family Party & Ornament Exchange!

WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 18TH, @ 6:30PM

Join us for pizza, goodies,
and lots of fun and games! Bring a
wrapped Christmas ornament for an
ornament exchange.



Grace Episcopal

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Ministers: All the People of God (BCP p. 855)

Sr. Warden: Katherine Coburn

Jr. Warden: B.J. Charbonneau

Deacon Emeritus: The Rev. Thomas A. Harrington

Organist/Choirmaster: Malcolm McGuire

Youth & Children's Director: Nancy Scott

