



**2nd Sunday of Advent
December 5, 2021**

Contemporary Service - 9:30 am

Scripture for Meditation

Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long. (Psalm 25:5)

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship for Advent

based on Philippians 4:4-5

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always.
People: I will say it again: Rejoice!
Leader: Let your gentleness be evident to all.
People: The Lord is near.
Leader: We rejoice in the hope of Christ's coming.
People: Let us worship God!

Praise and Prayer

King of Kings

CCLI #7127647 | Brooke Ligertwood, Jason Ingram, and Scott Ligertwood
© 2018 Hillsong Music Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Peace

He Shall Reign Forevermore

CCLI #7050416 | Chris Tomlin and Matt Maher
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Announcements

(Offerings are received weekly via mail and online giving at
<https://villagechurchnorthbrook.org/give/>. Those attending live worship can
leave their donations in the offering plates in the Narthex.)

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

The Promise of Comfort

Song of Response

Love Came Down

CCLI #5148938 | Jeremy Edwardson, Brian Johnson, Ian McIntosh, and Jeremy Riddle
2009 Brian And Jenn Johnson Music, Bethel Music, Mercy / Vineyard Publishing

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Closing Song

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Blessing

Postlude

For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.
**In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples;
the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious.**

Carol **Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming** **#79**
(verses 1-2)

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

We confess, O God, that we are a distracted people and pursue creature comforts rather than the comfort offered in Jesus Christ. We say we seek Peace on Earth, but we end up with anxiety and short tempers. Help us see the world differently because of your Holy Spirit dwelling within us. Forgive us for not recognizing the peace you offer and the assurance it provides. Enable us to pause and live from the peace we have received through your reconciling love on the cross. We pray this in Jesus' name, Amen.
(People silently offer their personal confessions to God.)

Declaration of Forgiveness

Pastor: Friends, believe the Good News:
People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

Carol **Blessed Be the God of Israel** **#67**
(verses 1-3)

Scripture Reading **Isaiah 40:1-11**

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord
All: **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem **And the Glory of the Lord**
(from *Messiah* by G.F. Handel)

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
And all flesh shall see it together:
For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Prayer of Adoration

Musical Reflection **Greensleeves**
(Ralph Vaughan Williams)

Anthem **This Little Babe**
(from *A Ceremony of Carols* by Benjamin Britten)

This little Babe so few days old, is come to rifle Satan's fold;
All hell doth at his presence quake, though he himself for cold do shake;
For in this weak unarmed wise the gates of hell he will surprise.

With tears he fights and wins the field, his naked breast stands for a shield;
His battering shot are babish cries, his arrows looks of weeping eyes,
His martial ensigns Cold and Need, and feeble Flesh his warrior's steed.
His camp is pitched in a stall, his bulwark but a broken wall;
The crib his trench, haystacks his stakes; of shepherds he his muster makes;
And thus, as sure his foe to wound, the angels' trumps alarum sound.
My soul, with Christ join thou in fight; stick to the tents that he hath pight.
Within his crib is surest ward; this little Babe will be thy guard.
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy, then flit not from this heavenly Boy.

Musical Reflection

Interlude

(from A Ceremony of Carols by Benjamin Britten)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Carol

Angels from the Realms of Glory

#81

(verses 1-3)

Anthem

Sing! Shout! Tell the Story

(from Christmas in the Western World by William Grant Still)

My Lord, Jesus, was born on this day. Oh, glory, Hallelujah!
Sing His praises! Shout His Glory! Tell the story of the blessed birthday.
Sing! Shout! Tell the story of His blessed birth.
Sing! Shout! Tell the story! Tell how Jesus came in glory here to us on earth.

Benediction

Postlude

Christ the Lord to Us is Born

(Camil van Hulse)

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Welcome and Sermon
Worship Leader/Liturgist
Advent Candle Lighters
Scripture Readers

Worship Band (9:30)

Pianist (9:30)
Director of Music
Organist/Pianist (11:00)
String Quartet (11:00)

Harpist (11:00)
Choral Music (11:00)

Rev. Dr. Spencer Lundgaard
Rev. Greg Buell
Paul and Suzanne Nelson
Cathy Burnham (9:30)
Jack West (11:00)
Luke Stoner (acoustic guitar), Carl Tobias (electric guitar),
Christine Cheung (synthesizer), Sarah Lee, Ellen Westel, Eric
Sealund and Deb Valkenaar (vocals)
Jim Peterson
Ruth G. Heald
Sharon Peterson
Joe DeAngelo (violin), Alexandria Hill (violin)
David Beytas (viola), Kelly Quesada (cello)
Emily Stone
The Village Church Festival Choir

Soprano:
Gloria Davis
Angela DeVenuto
Karen Fish Schurder
Megan Hendrickson
Sandra Mauk
Loren Myers
Eveline Nelson

Alto:
Laura Boguslavsky
Meghan Guse
Carol Rohrbaugh
Bonnie Sinclair

Tenor:
Damon Cole
Nicolas Nelson
Caesar Sanchez

Bass:
Augustine Ahn
Leo Radosavljevic

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Reflection Questions

Opening the Conversation:

1. When was there a tough time in your life that you wanted to end but it seemed to keep on going?
2. Tell about a time in your life that was a pivotal moment that shifted your direction in life?

Dwelling in the Scriptures:

1. Background: At this point in the book of Isaiah, the people, Israel, are still in Exile since Babylon is the foreign power ruling over them and others. At this point in Isaiah, their control is about to be over, and a promise is made in vs. 1-2. What is the promise?
2. If you would like to understand the dynamics of the Exile for Israel and how it is a common theme in the scriptures, take advantage of the 5-minute videos available from the Bible Project. Go to your search engine and type "Bible Project Exile," and then click on one of the videos.
3. In verses 3-8, there are different ways in which Israel is invited to prepare for the Lord. What are they? How might they help us prepare for God's impact in our life?
4. Isaiah 40:3 comes up in Mathew 3:3, Mark 1:3, Luke 3:4-6, and John 1:23. For the disciples, what might this mean for them? What might it mean for the early church when they read this reference to Isaiah 40?

Living from the Scriptures:

1. Share or write about a time in your life when you were comforted by God.
2. The theme for the 2nd Week of Advent is peace. What does this scripture teach us that gives you peace?