



OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.

PRELUDE

O Day of Peace, arr. J. Chrisman

LIGHTING THE ADVENT PEACE CANDLE - The Sausen/Hermsen Family from Psalm 85

Leader: As we light the candle of peace on this second Sunday in Advent, the Psalmist sings,
People: Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.
Leader: Surely God's salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.
People: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

HYMN 106

Prepare the Way, Bereden Vag For Herran

1 Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.

Refrain: O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

2 He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding. [Refrain]

3 Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace,
and tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing. [Refrain]

Text: Frans Mikael France, 1812; rev. 1819; trans. Augustus Nelson, 1958; adapt. Charles P. Pries, 1980, alt. Music: Then Svenska Psalmboken, 1697; arr. American Lutheran Hymnal, 1930. Text ©1982 Hope Publishing Company. Used by Permission. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-703704.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of peace, all year long we pursue power and money, yet you came in weakness, as a child. All season long we want more stuff, more for us, but you alone offer what is lasting. When we allow darkness to overcome the light, forgive us, Lord. When we reduce Christmas to plastic and tinsel, have mercy on us, Father. When hardness of heart keeps us from seeing and believing in your peace, let your grace fill us, O God, (silent confession continues...) Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Forgive our doubt and renew our hopes in Christ alone,

People: that we may watch and wait and once more hear the glad story of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the Lord. In His name we ask, Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 85:1-2,8-13

After all sing the response once, the cantor will sing the verses of the Psalm. The congregation will then sing the response where indicated with "(R)".

Refrain

Right-eous-ness and peace, right-eous-ness and

peace shall go be-fore the LORD, be-fore the LORD.

1. You have been gracious to your land, O Lord; you have restored the good fortune of Jacob. You have forgiven the iniquity of your people and blotted out all their sins. (R)

2. I will listen to what the Lord God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you. Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land. (R)

3. Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other. Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven. (R)

4. The Lord will indeed grant prosperity; and out land will yield its increase. Righteousness shall go before the Lord and shall prepare for God a pathway. (R)

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NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

2 Peter 3:8-15a

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

Ed Cothroll

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you,

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Eternal God (*prayer continues...*) We pray the prayer taught to us by our Lord Jesus Christ,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND POURING OF THE CUP

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Pifa, from Messiah, G.F. Handel

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other. We ask in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

HYMN

O God, We Hear Your Word of Grace, Carol

1. O God, we hear your word of grace; The Psalmist tells us this:
That love and faith will soon embrace and peace and justice kiss.
Then all will sing out, "God is good!" Then harvests will increase.
And we will listen, loving Lord, as you proclaim your peace.
2. The world proclaims a different word: How can these things be so?
For all around this hurting earth the seeds of discord grow.
When war and conflict, greed and pride would claim our loyalty,
Too often we have turned aside from what we're called to be.
3. Lord, show us what we're called to do as we await your day.
For waiting well means serving, too, and walking in Christ's way.
Now by your Spirit, may we be the bearers of your grace,
Till peace and justice both shall meet and love and faith embrace.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

When Our Song Says Peace, arr. K. Kolander

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Leaders Today

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Liturgist..... Bob Klassy
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