

HE COMES,
BEARING
gifts

THE GIFT OF PEACE



Second Sunday In Advent

December 9, 2018

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are thankful that you've chosen to worship with us.

We love children worshipping with us. But we understand that kids can get restless. We have a few options for your convenience: Quiet Bags in the back of church, filled with activity pages and books; a Quiet Area in the library area of our Commons with a rocking chair, children's books and toys; Changing Tables in both washrooms down the hallway to the right as you exit the chapel.

Most of the service is projected on the front wall. You can also find the service and hymns in the hymnal. Bibles are available on request. If you want, you may follow along with the today's readings from your mobile device. *Please be sure to silence your mobile device so you don't disrupt the service or distract people's worship.*

SERVICE NOTES FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

How do you feel when meeting someone important? When we come face-to-face with someone who can influence the direction of our lives, that tends to be nerve-wracking, not peaceful. How nervous will you be, then, when you stand face-to-face with your God, who will determine where you spend eternity?

Today, we see that God wants you to be at perfect peace when you stand before him. Through the work of Christ, sinners are at peace with a holy God. God raises up a messenger to preach that gospel to you today.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Lord God, work through your Word to develop in me a life that shows the fruit of purity that you have put around us in Christ. Amen.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Liturgist

Organist

Ushers

Pastor Erich Westphal

Bethel Janisch

Ron Stelter, Russ Wyman

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Scripture taken from *The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version*® (EHV®) © 2017 The Wartburg Project

ADVENT GATHERING RITE: PEACE

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS AND LIGHTING RITE

M: When God created the world, he made the crown of his creation—the human race—in his image (Genesis 1:26). Perfect people lived in a perfect world in a perfect relationship with God.

C: **But mankind rebelled against God, bringing sin into the world and death to all. God declared the wages of sin to be death (Romans 6:23). We too are guilty, and we confess our sinful thoughts, words, and actions.**

M: However, God—who is Love—did not want to be separated from his children forever. He promised a Savior who would bear the punishment for sin, defeat the devil, and break the bonds of death.

C: *Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel* | **CW 23**

**Oh, come, Oh, come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lowly exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!**

M: When the time had fully come, God sent his Son. Jesus, our Savior, has paid the ransom for your debt; your sins are forgiven (Galatians 4:4,5). In view of God's mercy, today we light the *peace* candle. The Spirit declares through the psalmist, "*Peace* I leave with you; my *peace* I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not be afraid" (John 14:27).

C: **Since we have been justified by faith, we have *peace* with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 5:1).**

C: *Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel* | **CW 23**

**Oh, come, our Peace, who authors faith,
Perfect our trust in you by grace.
Assure us by your gentle Word
That in true faith we all endure.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!**

M: In the peace of God, we go to the world—to our friends, relatives, acquaintances and neighbors. We regard no one from a worldly point of view. If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:16-18).

C: **God has committed to us the ministry of reconciliation. We are, therefore, Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. Jesus, who had no sin, became sin for us; in him we have become the righteousness of God** (2 Corinthians 5:19-21).

C: *Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel* | **CW 23**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel**

Worship continues with the service of *Morning Praise* on page 47 of *Christian Worship* with ...

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Malachi 3:1-4

John the Baptist prepared people to meet the Christ at his first coming.

We need the LORD to prepare us so that we have perfect peace at Christ’s second coming.

¹ “See, I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the LORD Almighty. ² But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner’s fire or a launderer’s soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, ⁴ and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 24 | EHV

This psalm describes the glory of Messiah's kingdom
and the blessings of those who dwell there.

All: *The LORD owns the earth and everything that fills it,
the world and all who live in it,*

Men: because he founded it on the seas,
and he established it on the rivers.

Women: **Who can go up to the mountain of the LORD?
Who can stand in his holy place?**

All: *He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
He will receive blessing from the LORD who saves him.*

Leader: *Lift up your heads, you gates.
Lift yourselves up, you ancient doors,
and the King of Glory will come in.*

Men: Who is this King of Glory?
The LORD strong and mighty,
the LORD mighty in battle.

Leader: *Lift up your heads, you gates.
Lift up, you ancient doors,
and the King of glory will come in.*

Women: **Who is he, this King of Glory?
The LORD of armies—he is the King of Glory.**

Silence for meditation.

SECOND LESSON

Philippians 1:3-11

Do you worry whether your faith is strong enough? To give us peace, St. Paul assures us that God (not us) graciously creates and maintains our faith through the gospel.

³ I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart; for whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God’s grace with me. ⁸ God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹ And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

VERSE OF THE DAY

John 14:27

Alleluia. *Peace* I leave with you; my *peace* I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. Alleluia.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-6

Christ grants us peace – not between nations but between sinners and a holy God - by producing repentance within us. Let us prepare our hearts to meet him!

¹ In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the desert. ³ He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴ As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the desert,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.

⁵Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill made low.
The crooked roads shall become straight,
the rough ways smooth.

⁶And all mankind will see God’s salvation.””

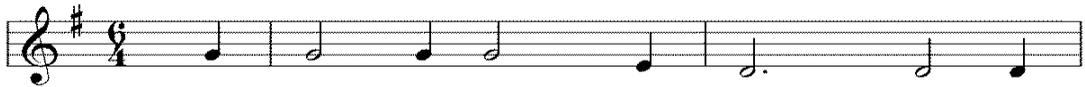
HYMN OF THE DAY

Prepare the Royal Highway | 702

Printed on the next page

702

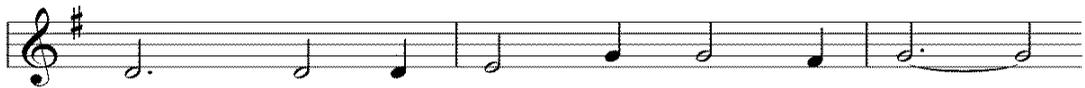
Prepare the Royal Highway



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: Your
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It



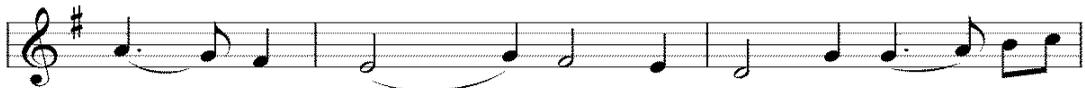
King of kings is near! Let ev - 'ry hill and
 own e - ter - nal King! Palm branch - es strew be -
 greet your prom - ised King! Your King, yet ev - 'ry
 comes from heav'n a - bove. His rule is peace and



val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
 fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
 free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, Fore - told in
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall
 All lands, bow down be - fore him! All na - tions,
 So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness



sa - cred sto - ry:
 doubt as - sail you!
 now a - dore him! Ho - san - na to the
 so a - bound - ing:



Lord, For he ful - fills God's Word!

SERMON

"Peace Requires Preparation" | **Malachi 3:1-4**

TE DEUM

We Praise You, O God | **pg. 48**

OFFERING

*Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him.
If you are a guest, please do not feel obligated to give an offering.*

Please record your visit on the Connection Card.

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy | **pg. 50**

LORD'S PRAYER

modern version | **pg. 50**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN

Comfort, Comfort All My People | **11**

CLOSING HYMN

May the Peace of God | **745**
See next page

Verse 1 - Cantor

Verse 2 – Congregation

745

May the Peace of God

1 May the peace of God our heav'n - ly Fa -
peace which pass - es un - der - stand -
ther, And the grace of Christ the ris - en
ing, And this grace which makes us what we
Son,
are, And the fel - low-ship of God the
And this fel - low-ship of his Com -
Spir - it Keep our hearts and minds with - in his
mun - ion Make us one in spir - it and in
Refrain
love. And to him be praise for his
heart.
glo - rious reign From the depths of earth to the
heights of heav'n. We de - clare the name of the
Lamb once slain— Christ e - ter - nal, the King of
kings.
1
2
2 May this kings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING ENVELOPES for next year are by the bulletin board.

If you currently use the *Simply Giving* program, we did not issue a box of envelopes. We will have envelopes for you to use for Lent, Easter, Special Offerings, Thanksgiving, etc. You will have to write your name on the envelope for these special services. If you desire a box, please ask Lisa.

LIFETOUCH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help Lifetouch with greeting and checking in appointments. We have broken the time into small intervals in the hopes that you could spare a couple hours to assist us. If you are able to help out, please choose a time slot on the back of the Connection Card.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY needs all our photos. If you are unable to make our scheduled dates of Dec. 14 & 15 you may call Lifetouch at: 866-756-0281 and have them taken at another facility.

GREETERS NEEDED for at our back door. We would like to bring back having greeters at the back door for visitors. This can make them feel welcome and to answer any questions they may have. If you are able to help out, please sign up on the back of the Connection Card.

Serving in The Lord

Ushers

Today: Ron Stelter
Russ Wyman
Next Sunday: John Nueman
Guy Schimenz

Organist

Today: Bethel Janisch
Next Sunday: Sasha Schallert

Calendar Week

Today – LWMS Sunday

Sunday School	9:00 am
Bible Study	9:00 am
Worship	10:00 am
Fellowship	11:00 am
Advent by Candlelight	6:30 pm

Monday

Wise Penny Work Day
No Men's Growth Group

Tuesday

Bible Class	3:15 pm
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Wednesday

Choir	6:45 pm
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Friday

Lifetouch Picture	2 – 9 pm
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Saturday

Lifetouch Picture	10 am – 4 pm
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Sunday

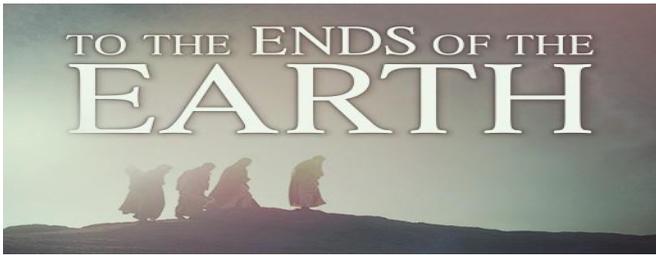
Sunday School	9:00 am
Bible Study	9:00 am
Worship	10:00 am
Fellowship	11:00 am

Blessings from The Lord

Attendance

Sunday School – 2
Bible Study – 18
Sunday Service – 59
Men's Growth Group – 3

Tithes & Offerings \$ 2,031.00



ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

Tonight at 6:30 pm.

Ladies, don't miss this special opportunity to focus your minds and hearts on the important message of the peace that comes

only through your Son. You will also be able to enjoy some free appetizers and desserts.

BENEVOLENT FUND currently has \$275 in the fund. The basket will continue to be out through the end of the year with our hope being \$1000 to start the new year. Jesus urges us to "love our neighbor as ourselves." To love as Christ has loved us.

TOYS FOR JOY supports our local CEAP program. Please consider donating new, unwrapped gifts by this Friday, December 14.

BROOKLYN BRIDGE PRESCHOOL would like to thank you for participating in our fundraising programs. Your support has generated nearly \$2,000 this past year! Over \$1,200 from SCRIP alone. Please continue to take advantage of these programs when purchasing Christmas gifts. Thank you.

SCRIP PROGRAM

Looking to buy gift cards this season? Look no further! We have cards for sale at the Scrip table. You can also order your gift cards at the Scrip table and pick them up next week. Talk to Dawn or Cindy after the service.



AMAZON SMILE is the same Amazon site you are currently shopping on with the added benefit of supporting our church.

Brooklyn Lutheran receives a quarterly check from Amazon. Who doesn't like a little extra cash! Directions are in the Information Center if you haven't signed up previously. Be sure to **tell your friends and relatives!** Amazon donates .5% of qualifying purchases.



Brooklyn

LUTHERAN CHURCH WELS

Using the Gospel to reach the lost and nurture the found - all to the glory of God.

www.brooklynlutheran.com

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