

Sunday, December 7 , 2025 – 9:30 am

Second Sunday of Advent — A Sunday of Peace

TODAY'S FOCUS: PRAISE. While Miriam's song is significantly shorter than Mary's they both give God the glory for what has occurred. Do we sing songs of praise outside of worship?

PRELUDE — Brendan Krueger

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — Lin

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST — Lin

OPENING HYMN UMH #220 "Angels From the Realms of Glory"

1. Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;

Ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:

REFRAIN: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

2. Shepherds, in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,

God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light: REFRAIN

3. Sages leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;

Seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star: REFRAIN

4. Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear;

Suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear: REFRAIN

CALL TO WORSHIP — Shelly Anderson

One: For bearers of hope and peace in all times and all places,

Many: Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

One: For those who govern with equity for the rich and the poor, for the comfortable and for the needy alike,

Many: Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

One: For anointed prophets who speak and act with wisdom, understanding and righteousness,

Many: Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

One: For reminders that we, too, may be agents of harmony, reconciliation, peace, and justice,

All: Let us give all thanks and praise to God!

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OPENING PRAYER — Lin

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE — Scott Anderson, Shelly Anderson, and Barry LaSalle

HYMN TFWS #2233 “Where Children Belong”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE — Lin

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 15:20-21/Luke 1:46-55 — Shelly Anderson

EXODUS 15:20-21

²⁰ Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron’s sister, took a tambourine in her hand, and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. ²¹ And Miriam sang to them: “Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.”

LUKE 1:46-55

⁴⁶ And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. ⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; ⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

MESSAGE “Miriam & Mary: Songs of Praise and Thanksgiving” Rev. Lin Cheek

RESPONSIVE HYMN UMH #241 “That Boy-Child of Mary” (vs. 1, 2, 4, 6)

REFRAIN: That Boy-child of Mary was born in a stable, a manger his cradle in Bethlehem.

1. What shall we call him, child of the manger? What name is given in Bethlehem? **REFRAIN**
2. His name is Jesus, God ever with us, God given for us in Bethlehem. **REFRAIN**
4. Gift of the Father, to human mother, makes him our brother of Bethlehem. **REFRAIN**
6. Gladly we praise him, love and adore him, give ourselves to him of Bethlehem. **REFRAIN**

OFFERTORY — Rae Ann Norell “Ave Maria”

PRAYER OF DEDICATION — Shelly Anderson

All: God of Grace, in the midst of a season focused on shopping and finding the right gift, we give our gifts now to you. We remember that all our giving has its foundation in the amazing gift you gave to us: the child Emmanuel, God with us! May what we give today, and in the days to come, be bathed in the knowledge that yours is the most perfect gift and the one we need the most. We pray in the holy name of the Christ child, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

COMMUNION THANKSGIVING — Lin & Shelly

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

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

One: It is right, and a good and joyful thing ... praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Many: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

One: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ ... as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Many: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

One: Loving God, we humbly ask ... as we pray as Jesus taught us to pray, saying:

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, forever. Amen.

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INVITATION — Lin**SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP**

In the United Methodist Church, all are welcome to share in Communion, and all means all. Please come forward when invited by the usher and eat the bread, then drink the cup. For the convenience of all, we use non-alcoholic grape juice and also provide gluten free wafers. When you return to your seat, please take time to pray for those on the prayer list in the bulletin. If you would prefer to receive communion in the pew, please let the usher know and the elements will be brought to you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION — Shelly

All: We thank you, God, for breaking into our world and pouring into our lives and our experiences. We thank you, God, for this meal of thanksgiving and the stories of love, grace, and hope that it tells. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

UMH #234 “O Come All Ye Faithful” (vs. 1 & 3)

1. O Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

REFRAIN: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest; **REFRAIN**

BENEDICTION — Lin

POSTLUDE — Brendan Krueger

Prelude/Postlude—Brendan Krueger
 Offertory— Rae Ann Norell
 Organ — Betsy Foushee
 Special Music — N/A (Communion)
 Liturgist —Shelly Anderson

Accomp.— Brendan Krueger
Song Leader — Scott Anderson
Violin — Rae Ann Norell

Children's Message— Lin