

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church
1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

December 8th, 2019

Second Sunday in Advent
Theme: The Gift of PEACE

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Services

Prelude

Welcome to Worship

A voice cries in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God." As we worship today, let us prepare to welcome God's dramatic work in our midst, in our hearts, in our community, and in all of creation. Let us worship God.

(11:00) Anthem

Christmas Chimings by Dan Edwards – Godsbells

Gathering

(Please stand as you are able)

Gathering Song

#257 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Stanzas 3-4)

**3. O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times gave the law in cloud, and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**4. O come, O Branch of Jesse, free your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

An Order of Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, the God of goodness and lovingkindness, whose Son was sent to save us and whose Spirit is poured out on us and renews us.

Amen.

As people called out of darkness, let us confess our sins and seek mercy from the God of justice and righteousness.

(Silence is kept for reflection)

Righteous and merciful God,

we confess that we have strayed from your ways and walked our own paths. We fall asleep to the needs around us, yet our anxieties jar us awake. We are bound up in systems of unrighteousness and injustice. Restore your people, O God; renew your creation; and have mercy on us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Listen to what God is saying, speaking **peace** to those who turn their hearts: the night is far gone, the day is near. All who have a fearful heart, be strong, do not be afraid! God comes in Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of holiness fill you with wisdom and might, that you may delight in God's ways.

Amen.

Gathering Song

#264 Prepare the Royal Highway

(Please be seated)

Advent Candle Lighting

Christ comes to lighten our darkness

And we wait for peace.

We await the time when wars will cease.

And swords turned into plowshares.

We look forward to the arrival of our Prince of Peace.

Come to us, O Prince of Peace.

John the Baptist came to prepare the way for the promised Messiah.

We look forward to the little child who will lead us.

Today we light two candles. The first candle illuminates patience and hope in our lives where God has called us to wait. The second candle extends the promise of strength and **peace** to all who feel weary and weak in this world. As we continue our Advent journey, may our hope and **peace** be kindled as the light grows brighter.

Let us pray. O Lord our God, you break into our world with messages of hope, **peace**, joy, and love. Renew our strength as we wait for your coming. Shine your light for those who live in darkness. Establish your **peace** throughout the earth.

Prepare our hearts for the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior of us all.

Blessed be God forever. Amen. *(The second Advent candle is lit)*

Advent Response

Christ Be Our Light

1. Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2. Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your ho - ly
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone has pow'r to
peo - ple, light for the world to see.
save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church gath - ered to - day.

Tune: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT 98 96 & Refrain. Music & Text: Bernadette Farrell. © 1993 Bernadette Farrell, admin. OCP Publications. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net #A-703603.

Word

(Please be seated)

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

In today's reading the prophet describes the ideal ruler who will come in the future as a green shoot springing from a dead stump [David's royal line] of Jesse [David's father]. Gifted by the Spirit, this messiah will seek justice for the poor, and the reign of this monarch will be experienced as paradise regained.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 15:4-13

God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able)

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Come, Lord Jesus!

Al - le - lu - ia! Come, Lord_ Je - sus! Hear your peo- ple as they_ pray,
 For the her- ald's voice, re - sound - ing, Calls us to pre - pare the_ way.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! An - xious - ly we wait the_ day!

Tune: Picardy, 87 87 87. Music: French Folk tune, 17th Century. Text: Arden Mead, Copyright © 2000 Creative Communications for the Parish. Used with permission.

Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

In the beginning was the Word,

And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

A reading from the book of Matthew.

Just before Jesus began his public ministry, John the Baptist appeared, calling people to live in accordance with their words and speaking of the powerful one who was to come.

The Gospel of the Lord for you this day.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

Children's Sermon

Pastor Matthew Schlake-Kruse

Sermon

Pastor Matthew Schlake-Kruse

(Please stand as you are able)

Hymn of the Day

#249 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*(Prayer cards will be collected during the Hymn)*

The Nicene Creed

Inside back cover of the Hymnal

Prayers of Intercession

Waiting and watching for our sure and certain hope and **peace**, let us pray for the world redeemed, the church reformed, and for all people restored in the coming one.

Prayer Response

Come now, O God of peace, make us one bod - y.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, hear us as we pray.

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Feel free to respond to each petition out loud or in your own hearts.

During these weeks of waiting and expecting, we pray for people we know living in fear of the unknown...

We pray for peace.

Receive our prayers, O God.

We pray for others and ourselves, who are confused about your will for their lives or for the world...

We pray for clarity.

Receive our prayers, O God.

We pray for all who feel doubt about your presence and your word...

We pray for trust.

Receive our prayers, O God.

We pray for all among us who are curious, and those awaiting the future with hopeful anticipation...

We pray for wonder.

Receive our prayers, O God.

We pray for all we know suffering in the shadows of this season; for all weighed down with heavy burdens; and impacted by trauma...

We pray for wholeness.

Receive our prayers, O God.

Most of all, when the world longs for you, we pray you help us respond with glad tidings of comfort and joy. We pray all these things in the name of Jesus, our long-expected Savior.

Amen.

(Repeat music prayer response)

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Thanksgiving

(Please be seated)

Musical Offering

8:30 *A Shoot Shall Come Forth* by Richard Horn
Senior Choir

11:00 *Advent Tidings* by Matthew Compton
Bells Angels

(Please stand as you are able)

Offertory

With Joy, O Lord, Our Gifts We Bring

1. With joy, O Lord, our gifts we bring, A tri - bute
 2. Em - ploy, O God, the gifts here shared That in the
 to our Ad - vent King, Who comes with - in our midst to
 world_ may be pre - pared The way of Christ, whose name we
 dwell As God with us, Em - man - u - el.
 bless, Who comes, the Lord our right - eous - ness.

Tune: PUER NOBIS, LM. Music: European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621. Text: Arden Mead, Copyright © 2000 Creative Communications for the Parish. Used with permission.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. Our ears have heard the words of your prophet, O God. Our spirits have responded to the call; "Prepare!" And the roadwork has begun. A highway is being laid, in our hearts!

We bring these gifts to you, O God signs of the preparation being made. Our hearts are ready for you! Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

page 221 (Contemporary Version)

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Sending

(Please be seated)

Today's Highlights

For more information on the church's activities, please pick up the bulletin announcements from the Welcome Center, ask an usher or go to our website, www.stmattslutheran.org.

(Please stand as you are able)

Blessing

Isaiah says, "*The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.*" May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in **hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song

#260 The King Shall Come

Dismissal

Go in peace. The coming of the Lord is near. Prepare the way.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Your presence has blessed our worship service. May you be strengthened by the strong word of God expressed through music and worship today. The peace of the Lord be with you as you go.