

Worship at Glendale Presbyterian Church

December 9, 2018

Advent 2C

Gather

Welcome

Prelude

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Redner

Organ and Piano duet

Peggy Mayfield, piano and Jean Thompson, organ

Advent Candle Lighting

Love's Pure Light

Chancel Choir and Congregation

Hope for God's Peace

Responsive Litany

In this season of Advent, we pray for God's peace.

Christ is our light and the source of our peace.

We witness the hostility between nations and neighbors.

Christ is our light and the source of our peace.

We see a world full of fractured relationships and unforgiving hearts.

Christ is our light and the source of our peace.

We seek relief from our own inner turmoil and restlessness.

Christ is our light and the source of our peace.

Candle Lighting

This morning we light two candles, the candle of hope and the candle of peace. This candle reminds us that Christ came into our world to restore peace, and that only through trust in God's word and his promises can we find our own inner peace. We remember that Christ is the Prince of Peace who taught us that through simple acts of love and forgiveness peace is spread throughout the world.

"Gesù Bambino"
Music: Pietro Yon

Words and Arranged by
JOEL RANEY



O come, O come, Em - man - u -
el, and end this gloom of night. Bring
hope to the world, bring peace to the
earth, and fill us with love's pure light.

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Prayer of the Day

God of Peace,
still our hearts this morning
as we gather to prepare the way for your Child.
Help us let go of what is weighing us down
and open our arms to welcome Emmanuel. **Amen.**

+Hymn 106

Prepare the Way, O Zion

Prayer of Confession (responsive)

John the Baptist, that wild man in the wilderness,
proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

Together, let us confess our sins and turn to God.

I confess to the ways I have damaged my relationships
with God and one another
by what I have done and what I have left undone.
I wish to be forgiven and set free.

Know that you are ferociously loved.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we declare to you that you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

**We confess to the ways we have damaged our relationships
with God and one another
by what we have done and what we have left undone.
We wish to be forgiven and set free.**

Know that you are ferociously loved.

In the name of Jesus Christ, I declare to you that you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

The Peace of Christ (responsive) - ?

Friends, our God desires us to live lives of peace
and, because we have been forgiven,
we can now live such lives with the help of God.

Alleluia! Amen.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

All who come to this sanctuary are welcome companions on this day.
Please turn to those nearest you and greet them with words of peace.

+Gathering Song 113 (refrain)

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Sharing the Story

Opening the Word with Young Disciples

Anthem

O Come, Emmanuel

Besig

Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading

Luke 3: 1-6

Holy Spirit,
come to this place
and settle your wisdom on our hearts
that we may hear what you are saying the Church today. **Amen.**

1 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, 2 during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. 3 He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, 4 as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. 5 Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; 6 and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.' "

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Liz Rolf Kanerva

+Affirmation of Faith

**We believe that God has come to us;
that God brought us into being,
that this God gave us breath and purpose,
that we have been blessed to be a blessing to others,
that we have fallen short of this commandment
but that God has nevertheless loved us despite our brokenness.**

**We believe that God is coming to us;
that God is not happy to leave us alone,
that this God will come to us as a particular human being,**

that God will be made known to us in flesh and bone like ours,
that Mary will soon give birth and Joseph will soon clap his hands in joy,
that Jesus Christ will be born and our salvation made complete.

We believe that God will come to us;
that God will have the final word and that Word will be good,
that this God will give us the presence of the Spirit to continue our work,
that we are called to be disciples to all the corners of the earth,
that the day is coming when tears and pain will be no more,
and all will gather at the Table to sing an endless and perfect "Alleluia!"

+Hymn 109

Blest Be the God of Israel

Prayers of the People

Let us pray to God, saying:
God of Harmony, **guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Luke 1:79

Prince of Peace,
when you first created the world,
you intended us to live in peace with one another.
But we have fallen terribly short of that intention.
We have made idols out of warfare and weapons,
and have profited from the conflicts of other nations.
Help us turn our swords into plowshares.
God of Harmony, **guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Wonderful Counselor,
we pray for our nation and long for the day when conflict will cease.
We pray for communities that have been ravaged by gun violence,
for families that have been torn apart by domestic violence,
for those who suffer as a result from systemic racism,
and for those who find themselves in patterns of unhealthy relationships.
Counsel us, Gracious God, that we may live in the peace you intend.
God of Harmony, **guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Everlasting Parent,
we pray for the children among us,
the most vulnerable of society.
We pray for children who do not have shelter and clothing,
for children who do not have a meal when school is out,

for children who are not given the resources they need to thrive,
for children who are the victims of bullying and abuse,
and for children whose desperate parents seek better opportunities elsewhere.
God of Harmony, **guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Insert prayer requests.

Mighty God,
we cannot save ourselves,
but through the life, death, and resurrection of your only child,
we rejoice that we have not been left to our own devices.
We praise you, Lord, for you are our sole redemption
and we, your beloved and broken children, give thanks.
God of Harmony, **guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Emmanuel, God-With-Us, hear our prayer
as we pray as you taught us to pray, saying: **Our Father...**

Lord's Prayer

Choral Prayer Response

Fill Me, O Fill Me

Offering

Invitation

All things in heaven and earth belong to God, who is coming in glory to reveal a new creation. Let
us offer our lives to the Lord.

Offertory

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
Gabe Mueller, trombone

*Doxology 84 (verse 4)

Creator of the Stars of Night

*To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
praise, honor, might, and glory be
from age to age eternally. Amen.*

+Prayer of Dedication

God our hope, we give you thanks that you have given us this foretaste of the justice,
righteousness, and peace of your promised new creation. Lead us to live in joyful
expectation of the coming again in glory of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sending

+Hymn 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

+Blessing and Charge

+Congregational Response 127 (refrain)

*We'll walk in the light, beautiful light.
Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.
O, shine all around us by day and by night.
Jesus, the light of the world.*

Postlude

Recessional
Baylor

The Prayer of the Day, Prayer of Confession, Prayer for Illumination, Affirmation, and Prayers of the People were written by the Rev. Stephen M. Fearing

Our Life Together

A Very Merry Trombone Christmas

Thursday, December 13th at 6:30 p.m.

Get into the holiday spirit with a fun and festive trombone quartet concert! Enjoy hot chocolate as you cozy up with friends and family, and feel free to sing along! This concert is FREE and open to the public. Thursday, December 13th at 6:30pm at Glendale Presbyterian Church, 500 N Sappington Road.

Doug Bert, Andrew Meyer, Gabe Mueller, trombone
Paul Ahlemeyer, bass trombone

GPC Sunday School Toy Drive

As you do your Christmas shopping, please consider picking out a new toy for the GPC Sunday School Toy Drive! The drive will benefit local children through the organization, Santa's Helpers. Donations are being accepted through Sunday, December 16th. Thank you!

Gifts for the Babe

Discipleship Commission

In preparation for Christmas, the Discipleship Commission is asking the congregation to participate in a "Gifts for the Babe" mission project again this year, to support Nurses for Newborns. The following is a suggested list of items needed by Nurses for Newborns: **Blankets, Wipes, Diapers, Bath**

Supplies, Pacifiers, Toys, Laundry Supplies

Gift bags are available at the mission counter near the parking lot doors. All gifts will be received on December 23 and on Christmas Eve.

Session Meeting

Sunday, December 16th - 11:45 am

The Session will meet after Fellowship in Room 208

Christmas Luncheon

Tuesday, December 18th - 11:30 am

The Presbyterian Women invite members and friends to gather for lunch at the Egg and I to share in fellowship and Christmas good cheer. The cost of lunch is \$15. Please call the church office at 314-822-2545 to RSVP.