



TO BE HIS LIGHT THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20, 2020

Lighting the Candle of Peace



Cantor: 1. O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong-hwa - ũi - im - gŭm,
2. Come now, O God of hope, make us one bod - y.
3. Come now, O God of peace, make us one bod - y.
4. Come now, O God of joy, make us one bod - y.
5. Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.



u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, re - con - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, re - con - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, re - con - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, re - con - cile your peo - ple.

Prayer

Come, O Holy One, as the beloved child, Emmanuel! Soften our hearts and open our arms for your coming that we may make this a place worthy and warm, kindly and safe for all your children, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Scripture for the Day

From the History of the Old Testament: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

7 Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ² the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." ³ Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

⁴ But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵ Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a

house to live in? ⁶ I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷ Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders^[a] of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?” ⁸ Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹ and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰ And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹ from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house.

¹⁶ Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me;^[a] your throne shall be established forever.

Anthem

“*O Little Town of Bethlehem*”

(*St. Louis*)

*O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

Scripture for the Day

From the Letters of Paul: Romans 16:25-27

²⁵ Now to God^[a] who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶ but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the

command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—²⁷ to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom^[b] be the glory forever! Amen.^[c]

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

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 and ever. Amen.

Offertory

“Angels’ Carol”

(John Rutter)

Have you heard the sound of the angel voices
 Ringing so sweetly, ringing out so clear?
Have you seen the star shining out so brightly
 As a sign from God that Christ the Lord is here?
Have you heard the news that they bring from heaven
 To the humble shepherds who have waited long?
Gloria in excelsis Deo Hear the angels sing their joyful song.

He is come in peace in the winter's stillness,
 Like a gentle snowfall in the gentle night;
He is come in joy like the sun at morning
 Filling all the world with radiance and with light.
He is come in love as the child of Mary'
 In a simple stable we have seen his birth
Gloria in excelsis Deo Hear the angels singing 'Peace on earth.'

He will bring new light to a world in darkness
 Like a bright star shining in the skies above;
He will bring new hope to the waiting nations
 When he comes to reign in purity and love,
Let the earth rejoice at the Saviour's coming;
 Let the heavens answer with the joyful morn
Gloria in excelsis Deo Hear the angels singing 'Christ is born.'

Scripture for the Day

From the Gospels: Luke 1:26-38

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."^[a] ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"^[b] ³⁵ The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born^[c] will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Sermon

"The Advent Agenda: Hoping" Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Hymn

"Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"
(see last page)

Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude

"Toccata on 'Adeste Fideles'" (Gordon Young)

Today's Worship Leaders:

Preaching Today: Rev. Marty Westermeyer

Liturgist: Carolyn Reisinger

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Choral Director: Dobin Park

Candle Bearer: Paige Barber, Avery Barber & Kelsey Faller

Thanks to all the musicians and to Michael Sullivan and Dobin Park for assisting with filming and to Dobin Park for film editing.

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185 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King:
 2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 late in time be - hold him come, off-spring of the Vir - gin's womb:
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with th'an - gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.