



(Luke 1:19)

Sow Good News

INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN

THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this Good News.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Peace ~ December 10, 2023



C.J. Briggs, Music Director

Paula Trill, Liturgist

Julie Lehmann, Church Secretary

Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

God speaks to us through the coming of Jesus, and that word God speaks, is peace.

~ Kate Bowler

~ GATHERING ~

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Luke 1:19)*

I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you,
and to bring you this **Good News!**

RESPONSE

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

GTG #95

Taizé Community

PREPARE THE WAY

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

As the Holy One has promised, in days to come:

the wolf will go and live with the lamb,

the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,

the baby cow and lion cub will be friends,

and a small child shall lead them.

In peace, let us walk in the light of the Holy One.

HYMN

LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES

GTG #93

by Georg Weissel

TRURO

CHILDREN OF GOD

POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

All: May God be with you there. Kids: May God be with you here.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all creation, your vision of peace is beyond our knowing. We have been hurt and we have seen destruction, so we turn around and hurt others, destroying what you have called good. Forgive us, and fill us with your knowledge, so we may help bring forth your peaceful kingdom. Amen. *[Time of Silent Confession]*

*RESPONSE

LORD, HAVE MERCY

GTG #576

by Swee Hong Lim

SINGAPURA

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

~ LISTENING TO THE WORD ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HEBREW BIBLE

1 SAMUEL 1-2

(Select Verses)

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.

For faith comes by listening.

IMAGES OF MARY

CHORAL ANTHEM

LUKE 1:26-38

GTG #98

TO A MAID WHOSE NAME WAS MARY

ANNUNCIATION

by Gracia Grindal

SERMON

SACRED ENCOUNTERS: MARY

~ RESPONDING TO THE WORD ~

***BLESS THIS ADVENT: PEACE** *(from The Lives We Actually Have)*

Come Lord, that we might hear your Word.

Blessed are we, the fearful, though we long to be people of peace.

We can't lie: we are afraid.

Afraid there won't be enough

— enough resources, enough time, enough memories.

Blessed are we who ask you for wisdom,

show us what to turn from, what to set aside.

Come Lord, that we might see you, move with you, keep pace with you.

Blessed are we who ask that this Advent we might dwell together quietly in our homes.

Come, Lord, that we might be for others the peace they cannot find.

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Blessed are we who look to you and say,
God, truly, we are troubled and afraid.
Come govern our hearts and calm our fears.

Oh Prince of Peace, still our restless selves,
calm our anxious hearts, quiet our busy minds. **Amen.**

***INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

***RESPONSE**

GLORY TO GOD
by Jacques Berthier

GTG #583

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

~ *GOING FORTH* ~

HYMN

MY SOUL CRIES OUT WITH A JOYFUL SHOUT
by Rory Cooney

GTG #100
STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

***BENEDICTION**

I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you,
and to bring you this **Good News!**

POSTLUDE

Know that you are loved by God and go forth to sow the Good News of God's love and peace.



Next Week: Second Sunday of Advent (Joy)

Pieces of today's liturgy are from: *Presbyterian Outlook*, Teri Ott.

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