

JOIN US
FOR WORSHIP!



The Light of Grace
Week 2 – Peace

THE LIGHT OF
grace



ADVENT MIDWEEK

DECEMBER 13, 2023

**congregation stands*

AS WE GATHER

In this second service in *The Light of Grace* series for Advent, we celebrate that Jesus is the Light of the world who shines on us with his amazing grace, and we focus on the gracious gift of peace, exemplified in the life of Isaiah.

OPENING HYMN

THE ADVENT OF OUR KING

LSB 331, vs. 1, 2, 3, 6

***INVOCATION**

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

***LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Two Advent candles are lit.

P Today we light the second candle on the Advent wreath, the candle of peace. We may be afraid at times, because we live in a world filled with violence. We may become caught up in personal struggles and family quarrels. We need the peace that only Jesus can bring.

C **Lord, grant us your peace.**

P The prophet Isaiah foretold the coming of the promised Messiah, the child who would be called the Prince of Peace. He would rule over all things, and there would be no end to his kingdom of peace.

C **Lord, grant us your peace.**

- P Jesus was born to bring us peace, the peace that comes through the forgiveness of our sins, peace that the world can never give, peace that Jesus alone brings.
- C **Lord grant us your peace.**

*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P Let us confess our sins to God and ask him to have mercy on us.
- C **Almighty God, even though you grant us your peace, we often destroy that peace by causing strife. We quarrel with others and condemn them. We pursue our own selfish interests instead of showing love to others. We turn away from the guidance of your holy Word. Have mercy on us, forgive our sins and grant us your peace.**
- P God sent his Son, the Prince of Peace, to be our Savior. Jesus shed his precious, innocent blood, suffering the penalty of death that we deserved for our sins. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- C **Jesus, Prince of Peace, rule in our hearts with the peace that you alone can bring.**

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** **AMAZING GRACE** **LSB 744, vs. 1, 2, 4**

*COLLECT FOR TODAY

HYMN **LO, HOW A ROSE E'RE BLOOMING** **LSB 359, vs. 1**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN **LO, HOW A ROSE E'R BLOOMING** **LSB 359, vs. 2**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 9:1–7*

¹ But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle
tumult and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

Colossians 1:13–20

¹³He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL READING

John 14:25–27

²⁵“These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*APOSTLES’ CREED

HYMN

COMFORT, COMFORT, YE MY PEOPLE

LSB 347, vs. 1, 2

SERMON

THE LIGHT OF GRACE AND PEACE: ISAIAH

OFFERING

*PRAYERS

After our petitions:

P Jesus, Prince of Peace,

C **Fill our hearts with the peace that you alone can bring.**

*LORD’S PRAYER

*BENEDICTION

P For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

C **And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

P Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

C **The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.**

P Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all.

C **Amen.**

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Poinsettias for Christmas Worship

Order soon! | TLO Church office

Help us beautify the Sanctuary for Christmas by purchasing a poinsettia. This win-win also supports our Youth program. Order forms are in the church narthex and church office.



Pizza and Christmas Caroling**

Sunday, December 17 | 11:30am | All ages | TLO Gym

Enjoy pizza lunch after late service. Then bring Christmas joy to TLO members in homes and in Care Centers by forming caroling groups that make up to 4 stops. No singing talent needed! RSVP's helpful but not required. Join us!



Christmas bags for TLO members**

Begins December 17 | take and deliver at your convenience

Pick up a prepared bag(s) starting December 17 and deliver it to the address on the bag. You will deliver Christmas goodies and smiles while receiving much more in return.



Worship Sunday, December 24 | 9:00*am

Note there is only one Sunday morning worship service Sunday, December 24, 2023.



Christmas Worship

December 24 | 3:30pm | Christmas Eve Family Worship

December 24 | 7:00*pm | Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion

December 25 | 9:00*am | Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion



Worship Sunday, December 31 | 9:00*am

Note there is only one worship service Sunday, December 31, 2023.