

Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith *The Scots Confession (1560) Ch. VI, The Incarnation of Jesus*

When the fullness of time came God sent his Son, his eternal wisdom, the substance of his own glory, into this world, who took the nature of humanity from the substance of a woman, a virgin, by means of the Holy Ghost. And so was born the "just seed of David," the "Angel of the great counsel of God," the very Messiah promised, whom we confess and acknowledge to be Emmanuel...

Offering Prayer, Offertory Music

Response *O Come, All Ye Faithful*
(refrain only) #41

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right... who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts
2x

The whole world is full of God's glory 3x

Holy is the Lord!

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Prayer After Communion

Going Into the World

+Hymn *As A Fire is Meant for Burning* STF 2237

+Charge and Benediction

+Postlude



ADVENT 2: PEACE



Community of Faith Presbyterian Church
December 8, 2019 +Stand as you are able
Leader reads plain type, Congregation reads bold type

Preparing Ourselves

Prelude

Welcome

+Advent Candle Lighting

L: Last Sunday we lit the first candle—the candle of hope. Today we light the second candle, the candle of peace. We light it knowing full well that peace is elusive, and in some parts of the world, it is almost completely absent. Yet in this season of Advent, we trust that God is never absent from us. God is always preparing something new. And even where there is war and discord, whether between countries, within families, or within our own hearts, God is present, gently leading us to new possibilities. (Two Candles are lit.)

P: Loving God, in this time of preparation and planning, we thank you for the hope and peace you unflinchingly offer us. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us the peace that comes from justice. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, That we may walk in the light of Christ; the same Christ who taught us to pray: *Our father in heaven, hallowed is 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.
(Processandfaith.org/Liturgies)

+Hymn *Comfort, Comfort You My People* #3

Confession and Forgiveness

L: None of us want to think of ourselves as sinners. But we know we are far from perfect. While God does not require us to own up to our mistakes and errors, we are indeed imperfect and broken human beings. We can, however, find healing in admitting our faults and seeking reconciliation with God and our friends and loved ones.

P: Loving God, forgive us for the mistakes and imperfections that separate us from you and the people around us. Help us to find healing in ourselves and our relationships that we may draw nearer to you and the ones we love. (moment of silence)

L: Through grace we can let go of guilt and worry that we aren't good enough, for in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response *I Sing Praises to Your Name (v1)* STF2037

Passing of the Peace

L: Today is the second Sunday of Advent—the Sunday of Peace. As we offer the peace of Christ to each other, it is more than a greeting, it is a way of shining light into dark places. May the peace of Christ be with us all.

P: May the light of peace shine in the dark places. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Anthem

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination (sung)

*Listen to the Word that God has spoken
Listen to the One who is close at hand
Listen to the Voice that began creation
Listen even if you don't understand*

Scripture Reading Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the

belt around his loins. ⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Hymn *Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice* STF2089

Scripture Reading Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" ⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and