Prelude

Welcome

* Lighting the Advent Candle: Hope

Response

Peace Waits for Us at Advent
Words and music by Amanda Udis-Kessler
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Peace waits for us at Advent
Peace waits for us to rest.
Peace waits for our acceptance
of the truth that we are blessed.
In this time of preparation
for the work of co-creation,
for the birthing of a world
of gentleness and play.
Peace is born in us each day!

The Peace

The Hope of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

As we rise in body or spirit for our opening hymn, I invite you to pass a “wave” of peace to the people around you (and the people worshiping at home)!
Isaiah the Prophet

Isaiah the prophet has written of old
how God's new creation shall come.
Instead of the thorn tree, the fir tree shall grow;
the wolf shall lie down with the lamb, the lamb,
the wolf shall lie down with the lamb.

The mountains and hills shall break forth into song,
the peoples be led forth in peace;
the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of God
as the waters cover the sea, the sea,
as the waters cover the sea.

God, bring to fruition your will for the earth,
that no one shall hurt or destroy,
that wisdom and justice shall reign in the land
and your people shall go forth in joy, in joy,
your people shall go forth in joy.

Prayer of Invocation

God of prophets and angels, your salvation is freely offered to all people. Open our imagination to participate in these moments of worship. May the ancient words hold for us a fresh message. Straighten the crooked ways and smooth out the rough places in our lives that we may live out the ministry you have called us to do. We, too, will prepare the way of Christ. Amen.

Prayer of our Savior

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Choir Anthem

Days of Elijah

By Robin Mark

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Children’s Moment

Children aged 3 to 11 may leave for Faith Formation with Erin Newcomb-Moore.
Scripture

First Reading: Baruch 5: 1-5

Take off your mourning clothes
and oppression, Jerusalem!
   Dress yourself in the dignity
   of God’s glory forever.
Wrap the justice that comes from God around yourself like a robe.
   Place the eternal one’s glory
   on your head like a crown.
God will show your brilliance everywhere under heaven.
   God will give you this name
   by which to be called forever:
   The Peace That Comes from Justice,
   The Honor That Comes
   from Reverence for God!
Get up, Jerusalem!
   Stand on the high place,
   and look around to the east!
See your children gathered
from the west to the east
   by the holy one’s word,
   as they rejoice that God has remembered them.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-11

3I thank my God every time I remember you,
   constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers
   for all of you,
5because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now.
6I am confident of this,
   that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

7It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you
   share in God’s grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the
   gospel.
8For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus.

9And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight
   to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless,
   having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Sermon

Pastor Nicole

“The Peace that Comes with Justice
Hymn

People Look East
Traditional French Carol
Public domain

People look East, the time is near
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.
People look East and sing today:
Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Furrows be glad, though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength, the seed to nourish,
that in course the flower may flourish.
People look East and sing today:
Love, the Rose, is on the way.

Angels announce with shouts of mirth,
him who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.
People look East, and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response

Emmanuel
Words and music by Bob McGee
C 1976 C.A. Music
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Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
his name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us.
His name is called Emmanuel.

Sacrament of Communion
Invitation
Words of Institution
Prayer of Consecration

Communion Response

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent
Traditional French
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Prayer of Thanksgiving

God, we give you thanks that you have come to us – in the child of Bethlehem, in this bread and cup, and in your answer to all of our hopes and your offer of peace, deeper than any truce, truer than the upheaval that surrounds us. You have comforted us with your promise and your presence so that we too may spread the welcome wings of your good tidings. Amen.

Announcements

Offering Plates are on the tables back of the church. We encourage you to give online here.

Carol

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day
Words by Henry W. Longfellow
Music by J. Baptiste Calkin
Public domain

I heard the bells on Christmas day their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat of peace on earth, good will to all.

And in despair I bowed my head: “There is no peace on earth,” I said.
“For hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to all.”

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: “God is not dead, nor doth God sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail, with peace on earth good will to all.”

Till, ringing, singing on its way, the world revolved from night to day.
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime, of peace on earth, good will to all.

*Benediction

Postlude

Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring
By J.S. Bach
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*Please stand as you are able
Bolded Font to be read by all