

Second Sunday in Advent ~~~ December 8, 2019

THEME: John fixes our attention on preparing for our coming Lord who brings peace.

HYMN 14: "Arise, O Christian People"

THE COMMON SERVICE –Page 15

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-10 (EHV)

Isaiah offers a description of the One who comes. With the fullness of the Spirit, he brings such peace that even natural enemies rest securely with one another. The Messiah's rule is one of perfect righteousness, and the poor find deliverance in him.

11:1 A shoot will spring up from the stump of Jesse, and a Branch from his roots will bear fruit.

2 The Spirit of the LORD will 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.

3 He will be delighted with the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, nor will he render decisions based on what he hears with his ears, 4 but with righteousness he will judge the poor, and he will render fair decisions in favor of the oppressed on the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath from his lips he will put the wicked to death.

5 Righteousness will be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his hips.

6 The wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat, the calf, the young lion, and the fattened calf together, and a little child will lead them.

7 The cow and the bear will graze together, and their young ones will lie down together. The lion will eat straw like the cattle.

8 The nursing child will play near a cobra's hole, and the weaned child will put his hand into a viper's den.

9 They will not hurt or destroy anywhere on my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

10 This is what will take place on that day. The peoples will seek the Root of Jesse, who will be standing like a banner for the peoples, and his resting place will be glorious.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 130 (p.114) (sung in unison)

With the words of David's great psalm of repentance, God's people place their hope in the Lord's unfailing love.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 15:4-13 (EHV)

Paul exhorts the Romans to live the peace described by Isaiah in our first lesson, by showing loving patience and acceptance of one another. This is accomplished as believers place their trust in God and so are filled with joy and peace in Christ.

15:4 Indeed, whatever was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that, through patient endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we would have hope. And may God, the source of patient endurance and encouragement, grant that you agree with one another in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that with one mind, in one voice, you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

For this reason, accept one another as Christ also accepted you to the glory of God. For I am saying that Christ became a servant of those who are circumcised for the sake of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to

the patriarchs. He also did this so that the Gentiles would glorify God for his mercy, as it is written:

For this reason I will praise you among the Gentiles, and I will sing to your name.

And again it says: Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people.

And again: Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples give him praise.

And again Isaiah says: There will be a Root of Jesse, and he is the one who will rise up to rule the Gentiles; on him the Gentiles will place their hope.

Now may the God of hope fill you with complete joy and peace as you continue to believe, so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

CHOIR: "O Jesus, Grant Me Hope and Comfort"

THE HOLY GOSPEL: THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12 (EHV) (sermon text)

John the Baptist proclaims the great message of Advent: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near...Prepare the way for the Lord!" Those who have been baptized by the One greater than John receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

3:1 In those days, John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the wilderness of Judea and saying, 2 "Repent, because the kingdom of heaven is near!" 3 Yes, this is he of whom this was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

A voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord. Make his paths straight."

4 John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. 5 Then Jerusalem, all of Judea, and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him. 6 They were baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins.

7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You offspring of vipers, who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? 8 Therefore produce fruit in keeping with repentance! 9 Do not think of saying to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that God is able to raise up children for Abraham from these stones. 10 Already the ax is ready to strike the root of the trees. So every tree that does not produce good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 11 I baptize you with water for repentance. But the one who comes after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 12 His winnowing shovel is in his hand, and he will thoroughly clean out his threshing floor. He will gather his wheat into the barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

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HYMN 16: "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

SERMON THEME: Advent – A Season for Repentance

1. It's the only way to prepare for Christ's coming 2. It's the only way to prepare for his judgment

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART – Page 20

OFFERING HYMN 485 Verses 1 & 2: "We Give Thee but Thine Own" (Please Stand)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & LORD'S PRAYER- Page 20

ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION – Page 21

HYMN 206: "Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying"

SONG OF SIMEON – Page 24 (Please Stand)

BENEDICTION

HYMN 11 Verses 3&4: "Comfort, Comfort All My People"

SILENT PRAYER & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Serving Us Today ~December 8, 2019

Altar Guild: Dave & Faye Leatherman & Ruth Reiter
Ushers: Timothy Krause, Mark Juedes, Mike Juedes & Pam Juedes
Organist: Marge Schroeder
Communion Assistant: John Nieman



During Our Worship Service this morning we will be celebrating the Lord's Supper. Non-members are asked to speak with Pastor Seelman before the service prior to communing.

Please Join Us For Advent Services Wednesday, December 11 and December 18 at 6:30 p.m. to prepare our hearts and souls for Christmas! Join us for pre-service soup suppers too at 5:30 p.m. in our Fellowship Hall.

Advent Envelopes: Additional Advent offering envelopes are available in the entranceway of our church. Please remember to write your name or envelope number on the front so you can be appropriately credited.

2020 OCM Card Update: A "new" person is in charge of procuring the cards for Ruth Reiter. We have been waiting a really long time (Ruth ordered on November 11). Please be patient, they are supposed to be delivered to Ruth this coming week. Sorry for any inconvenience this delay has caused.

Jesus Cares Ministry for people with special needs meets on Tuesday, December 10 at 6:00 p.m. at Grace on Nebraska. Come and enjoy a Bible story, craft project and music! All ages are welcome. Call Grace church office for more details. (231-8957)

Ladies' Guild December Gathering is planned for Saturday, December 14 at 10:30 a.m. in our church kitchen. A noon luncheon is also planned. We will be packing Christmas cookies for our shut-ins and selling Christmas cookies (next) Sunday after worship service. Anyone wishing to donate their yummy Christmas cookies for this event is invited to do so. Please have your contribution to the church kitchen by 10:30 a.m. Saturday morning. Thank you!

Immanuel's Budget and Election Meeting will be held today, following our Worship Service. Two items to discuss on the brief agenda is the 2020 Budget and election of open council member positions (Building & Grounds Chairman and Treasurer). If you are interested in serving on our Church Council, please speak to Marty Waite or Pastor Seelman.

OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GIFTS			THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL	
Budgeted Need per week	\$3,379.00		Office Hours	Monday & Tuesday 8:00 a.m. - Noon
Budgeted Rec'd 12-01-19	\$1,853.00		Today	10:00 a.m. Budget & Election Meeting
Budgeted Rec'd 12-04-19	\$377.00		Today	10:00 a.m. Sunday School
Budgeted Need to date	\$162,192.00		Tuesday	9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class
Budgeted Rec'd to date	\$148,815.06		Wednesday	5:30 p.m. Soup Supper
❦			Wednesday	6:30 p.m. Advent Worship
Worship Attendance 12-01-19	54		Wednesday	7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
12-04-19 Doctrine Study Hour	9		Saturday	10:00 a.m. SS Christmas Practice
Tuesday Bible Class	N/A		Saturday	10:00 a.m. L.G. Christmas Cookie Project
Advent Soup Supper	23		Saturday	Noon Ladies' Guild Christmas Luncheon
Advent Service 12-04-19	42		Sunday	10:00 a.m. L.G. Christmas Cookie Sale

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