

Second Sunday in Advent: Peace

Call to Worship

L: Welcome today to this time of preparation.

P: Although we have been preparing for celebrations, we come seeking to prepare our hearts to receive God's Good News.

L: Get ready! The Lord is bringing to us Hope and Peace.

P: How wonderful it is that the Lord is showering us with Peace.

L: Open your hearts and let your spirits be quieted. Be at peace with the Lord.

P: Lord, prepare our lives and bring us peace. AMEN.

Opening Prayer

Blessed is the Lord, and blessed are God's people to whom God sends a savior, the messiah, who is Christ the Lord. Blessed is our God, and blessed are God's gifts, that grace us with forgiveness and every good gift. Lord, you have come to dwell within us. Build your temple within our hearts. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Opening Songs "Go Tell it on the Mountain"
"Still, Still, Still"

Children's Time

Scriptures

Matthew 1:18-24 (NIV)

Joseph Accepts Jesus as His Son

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

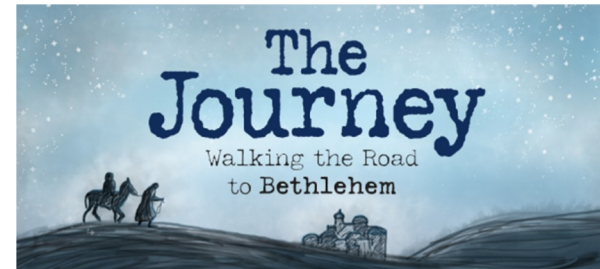
But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.



Message
"Emmanuel, God is with us!"
by
Pastor Peter Choi

Joys and Concerns

Prayer List: Phyllis Finkner, Gary Smidt, Janet & Daughter-Joyce Will's niece, Merlin Beahm, Fred Will, Jan Hofferber-Kathi Schutz's mother, and Larry Preston-Jeanette Wilkinson's brother.

Happy Birthday to Mike Conyers, Jim Haws, & Kathi Schutz

Happy Anniversary to Malcom & Nikki Dornhoff—21 years
and Tim & Tammy Burke—39 years