

St. Luke’s Gondola Point

**MORNING PRAYER**

ADVENT II - December 5, 2021

[Un-bolded words are said by one, **Bolded words** can be said by all.]

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

(This liturgy was compiled and written by the Rev. Matthew Kozlowski, 2015)

The Second Sunday of Advent - *Peace*

Today we light the first and second candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is *Hope*, the second candle is *Peace*.

[**The candles are lit.**]

Colossians 3:15 – “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace.”

Let us pray: “**Almighty God, you offer rest for our hearts, and peace for our souls. Give us grace to seek peace in our lives, peace in this community, and peace in the world. Through Jesus Christ, the prince of peace. Amen.**”

Advent Hymn: O Come O Come Emmanuel (CP #89 Verse 7, altered)

*O come, Desire of nations, bind / all peoples in one heart and mind*

*Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease. / Fill the whole world with Heaven’s peace*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! / Emmanuel*

*Shall come to thee / O Israel*

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. All flesh shall see the salvation of God. *Luke 3.4, 6*

Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence is kept.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn: *Come and Fill Our Hearts With Your Peace* (CP #402)

**MORNING PRAYER**

Lord, open our lips,

**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Will you not give us life again,

**That your people may rejoice in you?**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**as it was in the beginning, is now,** **and will be for ever. Amen.** **Alleluia!**

The kingdom of God is at hand: **O come, let us worship.**

**Jubilate** *- Psalm 100*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*

**serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.**

Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*

**he himself has made us, and we are his;**

**we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; \*

**give thanks to him and call upon his name.**

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; \*

**and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

The kingdom of God is at hand: **O come, let us worship.**

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

A reading from the book of Malachi 3:1–4.

*See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. 2But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?*

*For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; 3he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. 4Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.*

The Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 19a - *Song of Zechariah* - Luke 1:68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*

**he has come to his people and set them free.**

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, \*

**born of the house of his servant David.**

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,

that he would save us from our enemies, \*

**from the hands of all who hate us.**

He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*

**and to remember his holy covenant.**

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*

**to set us free from the hands of our enemies,**

free to worship him without fear, \*

**holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.**

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*

**for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,**

to give his people knowledge of salvation \*

**by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God \*

**the dawn from on high shall break upon us,**

to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \*

**and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**As it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

A reading from the book of Philippians 1:3–11.

*3I thank my God every time I remember you, 4constantly 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 10to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, 11having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.*

The word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 19b - *Song of Zechariah*

*Bless’d be the God of Israel, / the ever-living Lord,*

***who comes in pow’r to save his own, / his people Israel.***

*For Israel he raises up / salvation’s tow’r on high*

***in David’s house who reigned as king / and servant of the Lord.***

*Through holy prophets did he speak / his word in days of old,*

***that he would save us from our foes / and all who bear us ill.***

*To our ancestors did he give / his covenant of love;*

***so with us all he keeps his word / in love that knows no end.***

*Of old he gave his solemn oath / to Father Abraham;*

***his seed a mighty race should be / and bless’d for evermore.***

*He vowed to set his people free / from fear of ev’ry foe*

***that we might serve him all our days / in goodness, love, and peace.***

*O tiny child, your name shall be / the prophet of the Lord;*

***the way of God you shall prepare / to make his coming known.***

*You shall proclaim to Israel / salvation’s dawning day*

***when God shall wipe away all sins / in his redeeming love.***

*The rising sun shall shine on us / to bring the light of day*

***to all who sit in darkest night / and shadow of the grave.***

*Our footsteps God shall safely guide / to walk the ways of peace.*

***His name for evermore be bless’d / who lives and loves and saves.***

Song: *My Eyes Are Dry*

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke (3:1–6). **Glory to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, 2during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. 3He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, 4as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,*

*“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:*

*‘Prepare the way of the Lord,*

*make his paths straight.*

*5 Every valley shall be filled,*

*and every mountain and hill shall be made low,*

*and the crooked shall be made straight,*

*and the rough ways made smooth;*

*6 and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ”*

The Gospel of Christ: **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**INTERCESSIONS**

In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, “Lord Jesus, come soon!”

O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us. **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more. **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay. **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God. **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

For our own needs and those of others. [***Take a moment of silence to offer up prayers and intercessions, for yourself and for others. Our weekly prayer list can be found in this week’s bulletin.***]

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

**[*Silence. Take a moment to offer up your own thanksgivings to God.*]**

*Gracious God,*

*you have heard the prayers of your faithful people; you know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking. Grant our requests as may be best for us. This we ask in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.* ***Amen****.*

Collect

*Almighty God,*

*who sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah, inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth, to turn our disobedient hearts to you, that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before his glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.* **Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Song: *Come You Sinners, Poor & Needy* (CP #608)

Dismissal

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**