

*Palma Sola and Westminster Presbyterian Churches
6510 3rd Avenue West
Bradenton, Florida 34209*

Second Sunday in Advent

December 4, 2022

Welcome and Outreach Announcements

Prelude Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee and I Worship You, Almighty God

Lighting of the Advent Candle 85

**Light two candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,
gently lead them homeward.**

*Gathering Song O Come, O Come Emmanuel 88

**3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**4 O come, thou Root of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save
and give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and welcoming God, have mercy on your people. We confess that we do not heed your word in all that we say and do. We do not see our neighbors, families, and friends as beloved children. Forgive us, for we repent and look to your power to heal us, so that at the last, you will gather us and give us peace. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

* Response

Prepare the Way, O Zion

**1 Prepare the way, O Zion,
your Christ is drawing near!**

**Let every hill and valley
a level way appear.**

**Greet One who comes in glory,
foretold in sacred story.**

**O blest is Christ who came
in God's most holy name.**

Scripture

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The 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.

His 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, but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed 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. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They 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. On 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.

Scripture

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.” ³ This 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.’” ⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹ and do 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. ¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His 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.”

Message

Beyond what eyes can see

Rev. Edward Dunn

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

The bread and cup will be distributed to you in your pew today.

Lord’s Prayer

**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 debts, As we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

**It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth,
to touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heaven’s all-gracious King”:
the world in solemn stillness lay,
to hear the angels sing.**

**For lo, the days are hastening on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world give back the song
which now the angels sing.**

*Blessing

Postlude

Members of Palma Sola are asked to remain in the Sanctuary for a Congregational meeting following the service.