



**Second Sunday of Advent
Advent Reflections on Shalom
December 4, 2022**



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Montrose, CO

We are people called together by Christ to celebrate God in worship, grow together through discipleship and bring others to Christ.

December 4, 2022

9:30 a.m.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ADVENT REFLECTIONS ON SHALOM

Meditation

Of all people, Jesus should be freaking out. He should be packing a bag and saying, "See you, I'm gone!" Instead, Jesus, the eye of the storm coming toward him, holds his ground and expresses his love for his friends by giving them God's peace—His peace. And Jesus does this again post-resurrection, appearing before the disciples in that locked room to say, "Peace be with you!" In other words, Jesus is saying, "I am here among you. I am the Peace that is eternal and will not go away!"

~Rev. Andy Acton

Welcome and Invitation to Worship

The Sound of a Bell, a Moment of Silence

Opening Prayer

Call To Worship*

(In Unison – Psalm 100)

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us,

*Rise if you are able.

and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. Let us worship the Lord together! Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath* - Gerry & Carol Pyle

Songs of Worship*

Joy to the World

Hark the Herald Angles Sing

Prayer of Confession

(In Unison – Ministry Matters)

It is getting more and more difficult, Lord, for us to keep our attention on the holy things. Our lives are caught up in the planning, parties, gifts, and other such things. The cries of those in need abound and we are overwhelmed by the need. Heal our hearts and spirits, Lord. Help us to find a simple way in which we might lighten someone else's burden, as you have lightened our lives. You have brought hope and peace to us. Now cause us to rejoice in the wondrous things that you have done. Teach us to use our gifts for the common good, and that in helping, we find great and abundant joy. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

The good news in Christ is that when we face ourselves and God with the awareness of our need, we are given grace to grow, and courage to continue the journey. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Passing of the Peace

One ancient and significant gesture in worship is the passing of the peace. Passing the peace is a tradition rooted in Scripture that embodies our identity as peacemakers (Matt. 5:9; 2 Cor. 5:20) and trains our hearts, hands, and voices in the ways of peace. At these times we leave the comfort of our seat, turn to our neighbors, grasp their hands, and speak the words, "The peace of the Lord be with you," and receive the words in turn, "And also with you." The gesture is simple, but the meaning is profound. When we extend our hand to another, we identify with Jesus, who extended his life to the point of death to make peace with humanity. (Col. 1:20-21).

*Rise if you are able.

Offering

Deacon Report & Offertory Prayer - Jeanne Motley

Offertory Song - *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*

Please consider tithing during this part of the service.

The first Sunday of the month is Deacon Sunday. If you feel led to give a special donation, please use the deacon envelope provided on the seat or use our website under the "Give" tab.

***There is no Kids Connection this Sunday**

Scripture

John 14: 1-7, 25-27

Message

"Advent Reflections on Shalom" - Rev. Dr. Jesse G. Mabanglo

Apostles' Creed

(In Unison)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Communion

Song of Sending*

Come All Ye Faithful

Life in the Body (Announcements)*

Blessing and Benediction*

*Rise if you are able.

Nursery is available during the service for ages 0-5.