



St Ives Uniting Church

8 December 2024

Advent 2

Lighting the second Advent Candle

We light the Candle of Hope with our hearts full of anticipation.

Knowing that God's Kingdom is near, and that God's peace will flow like a river, washing away the conflicts of the world.

Response: 265 O come, O come Emmanuel (2 verses)

Welcome and call to worship

Hymn: 161 Tell out, my soul

Prayers of adoration and confession

Assurance of forgiveness

Hear Christ's word of grace, "Your sins are forgiven."

Thanks be to God

Responsive Reading: Luke 1:68-79

⁶⁸ "Praise be to the Lord,

because he has come to his people and redeemed them.

⁶⁹ He has raised up a horn of salvation for us

in the house of his servant David

⁷⁰ **(as he said through his holy prophets of long ago),**

⁷¹ salvation from our enemies

and from the hand of all who hate us—

⁷² to show mercy to our ancestors

and to remember his holy covenant,

⁷³ **the oath he swore to our father Abraham:**

⁷⁴ to rescue us from the hand of our enemies,
and to enable us to serve him without fear
⁷⁵ **in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.**

⁷⁶ And you will be called a prophet of the Most High;
for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him,
⁷⁷ to give his people the knowledge of salvation
through the forgiveness of their sins,
⁷⁸ **because of the tender mercy of our God,**
by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven
⁷⁹ to shine on those living in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the path of peace.”

Amen

Notices

Lawrence Peak

Hymn: 160 Father all-loving

Before the readings: Peace?

Bible readings

Luke 3:1-6

Beth Facer

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—² during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴ As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.
⁵ Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill made low.
The crooked roads shall become straight,
the rough ways smooth.
⁶ And all people will see God’s salvation.”

For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Philippians 1:3-11

Richard Facer

³ I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God’s grace with me. ⁸ God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹ And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Sermon: Peace.

Hymn: 607 Make me a channel of your peace

Offering

Offering response: 768 Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Prayers of the people

Ross Lorenz

Hymn: 303 Hark the herald angels sing

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Postlude

Pianist

Lawrence Peak

