

St. James United Church

December 10, 2017/second Sunday in Advent, Peace

Minister: Rev. Brian Colbourne
Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM
Acting Minister of Visitation: Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Organist: Paul Rodermond
Choir: Senior
Choir Director: Emma Clark
Soloist: Hannah O'Donnell
Brass Trio: Emma Clark, Hannah Sheppard,
Ben Taylor

**Please remain seated comfortably until invited to stand.
Please silence your cell phone during the Service**

Pre-Service: *Christmas Carol Medley* (Bruce Dunn) Brass Trio

Musical Prelude

Welcome & Life & Work of St. James



Lighting the Community Candle

Introit: *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* Choir

Sharing the Peace

Call to Worship: (responsive)

One: Imagination ignites the world with dancing and laughter,

All: Anxiety dreams of a day when all worries are cast aside.

One: Wisdom reflects how to build a world where joy and sharing prevail.

All: Gratefulness gives thanks for today's bounty and trusts in the promise of tomorrow.

One: Courage moves into unknown places searching for God.

All: And we, gathered in the name of Christ, celebrate and sing to praise and pray, to rejoice and renew all the while seeking a glimpse of true Peace.

Opening Prayer: (together) God of Advent surprises, awaken us to our full potential beyond our imaginations. Like Mary, may Your spirit overcome us so that we become more than observers celebrating the birth – help us to become

participants in Christ's coming today and tomorrow in the life we share with others and the love we offer, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn: *On Jordan's Bank* 20

Children's Time

Lighting the second Advent Candle:

One: On the first Sunday of Advent we lit a candle for Hope.

(as the second candle is lit)

Today we light a candle for Peace. This is the Peace we search for: Peace of mind that enables us to think clearly and act with confidence,

All: Peace in our hearts that enables us to feel calm and share compassion.

One: Peace in our spirits that puts us in touch with God's love and the Way of Christ.

All: Peace in our homes, Peace at work and school, Peace when we are among friends, Peace within the family circle.

One: Peace within us, Peace around us, Peace to hold us strong, Peace in the world.

All: A Peace that encourages us to work as Jesus did, for justice and sharing. Amen.

Hymn: *Hope is a Star, verse 2* 7

Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,

giving a promise of safety and worth.

When God is a child there's joy in our song.

The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.

Anthem: *O Holy Night* Solo

Offertory Invitation

Offering

Offertory Hymn: *In the Bleak Midwinter, verse 4* 55

What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what can I give Him – give my heart.

Offertory Prayer: (together) God of peace and promise, the circle of life opens wide with welcome to the vulnerable, the needy, to all Your children. May the gifts we offer be signs of our commitment to help those who need what the church has to offer. Bless our offerings, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Anthem: *Christmas Lullaby* Choir

Scripture Readings

Old Testament: Isaiah 11: 1-10

Gospel: Mark 1: 1-8

Meditation: A vision for Peace.

Hymn: *People, Look East* 9

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn: *Hark the Glad Sound* 29

Blessing and Sending Forth: (together) We are the instruments of hope and peace in a hurting world. Let us take up our call and go, spreading the message of encouragement for all people.

Musical Postlude

Ushering this week is provided by:

Usher in Charge: Bill Butt

Greeter: Rev. Jim Von Riesen, Bruce Hunt

Ushers: Peter Barbour, Gilbert Thomas, Clyde Flight



Accessibility at St. James United Church

Hearing Devices

Wheelchairs

Enlarged Bulletins

If you wish to use one of the above services that we offer, please speak with one of our ushers and they will be happy to assist you.

"Everybody wins in a contest of kindness." (Anonymous)