

Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church

Online Worship Service

November 29, 2020 – 1st Sunday of Advent

GATHERING ...

**The Ringing of the Bell
Words of Welcome**

PREPARING ...

Call to Worship

The Stoess Family

Our Advent candles this year represent four gifts that God gives us – Peace, Justice, Joy, and Salvation. These gifts are God’s vision for how our world *should* be. We are invited this year to receive peace, justice, joy and salvation as the gifts they are and spend time each week reflecting on how to use each gift to help build a better world.

Today we begin the season of Advent by lighting the first candle in our Advent wreath: THE GIFT OF PEACE.

The prophet Isaiah writes: *They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks.*

Peace I much more than the absence of something negative, like swords or spears. It is the presence of something positive, like plowshares and pruning hooks.

As we light our first candle, let us consider how we may be “something positive” and PEACEFUL in the world. Let us pray together:

Lord, make us instruments of your PEACE: Where there is hatred, let us sow charity; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy; where there is violence, let us be PEACE. Amen.

Call to Confession and Prayer

Now is the time to wake from sleep.

Salvation is near. Let us confess our sins:

God our Maker, we confess that we are not ready to meet You. We study the trends of our times and ignore the signs of Your presence here already. We trust in things that pass away and forget Your eternal promise. Forgive us, God of hope. Strengthen us, by Your hand, so that we may experience you here and now, even as we wait for Christmas Day. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, hear our silent prayers of return ...

(A Time of Silence for Personal Confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low.

Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

Response, No. 1

Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus (stanza 1)

STUTTGART

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;

From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.

Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;

Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

HEARING ...

Scripture

Isaiah 2:2-4

Sermon

THE GIFT OF PEACE

Rev. Joel Weible

Anthem

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

PAUL MANZ

The Combined Choirs of PVPC and Highland Presbyterian

*Peace be to you and grace from Him
Who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed His blood
That we might saved be.*

*Sing Holy, Holy to our Lord,
The Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come;
Sing Holy, Holy, Lord!*

*Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon,
For Christ is coming soon!*

*E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
And night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun,
For Christ will be their All!*

Affirmation of Faith (*unison*)

FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH

In a broken and fearful world, God's Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God and empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and faithful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and earth, saying: "Come Lord Jesus!"

RESPONDING ...

Time of Giving Thanks

Announcements
Prayers of the People
The Lord's Prayer

SENDING ...

Charge and Benediction

Benediction Response

Our flowers this morning are dedicated to the Glory of God

This Week's Anniversary: Celeste & Raymond New (12/4)

To dedicate flowers for an upcoming Sunday, contact the Church Office at 241-4326