

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2022 **2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006
Rev. Vivian L. Rodeffer, Pastor **Ms. Maxine Alstrom, Music Director**



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Pastor Viv

Holy God, you are the great giver of peace, the one who calms the storms of our lives, and who holds us in all things. We pray for your light to guide us on a more peaceful path, even when it does not feel possible. Give us eyes to see your presence and possibility in our midst. Guide us through this journey Lord. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, let's turn to the Holy.

We come to worship God our Creator.

Come, bring your hopes, fears, and longing for a better world.

We come to praise the Prince of Peace.

Come, as your whole self – body, mind, and soul.

We come to receive the Spirit who gives us life.

God, as we attend to you, fill us with peace.

THE ADVENT WREATH

“Candles of Advent”

Light one candle in the night, light one candle of peace.
 Peace that will free the world from war,
 Peace that will last evermore,
 Peace for the child we are waiting for.
 Light one candle of peace.

Gracious God,
 As we journey down this Advent road,
 grant us the courage to make peace.
 Peace in our hearts, peace in our homes,
 Peace in our communities. Amen.

The candle of PEACE is lighted at this time.

GATHERED PRAYER

Holy One, we gather today at the start of this Advent season with expectant hearts. Slow us down, God. Calm our hearts. Still our minds. Help us to be present to your Holy Spirit nudges, so we can witness the unexpected ways you are at work. O Come, O Come, Prince of Peace. Amen.

*HYMN #218

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

1. 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 heav’n’s all-gracious King.”
 The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

2. Still thru the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
 And still their heav’nly music floats o’er all the weary world.
 Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov’ring wing,
 And ever o’er its babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

3. For lo! the days are hast’ning on, by prophets seen of old,
 When with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,

**When the new heav'n and earth shall own the Prince of Peace their King,
And the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.**

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 2: 1-5

The Future House of God

1 The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

2 In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

3 Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

4 He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more.

5 O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR

"An Advent Credo"

Joseph M. Martin

THE MORNING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Karen

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE MESSAGE

The Possibility of Peace

DEDICATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

***ADVENT DOXOLOGY**

Praise God for gifts of hope and peace

Praise God for gifts of joy and love. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God for sending Christ to dwell

On earth for us – Emmanuel. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

As we present our tithes and offerings on this second Sunday of Advent, we give thanks for the gifts you bestow upon us especially the gift of Jesus. May you bless these offerings and multiply them as we strive to do the work of your kingdom here on earth. May our work bring about peace and love to all. This we pray in the name of the Prince of Peace, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER**PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING COMMUNION**

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN #431 "Let There Be Peace on Earth"**

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me;
 let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
 With God our creator, children all are we.
 Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
 Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.
 With every step I take, may this be my solemn vow:
 To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
 Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

***BENEDICTION**

During the Postlude please bring your prayer doves forward to be hung on the tree

***POSTLUDE**

***Stand as able.**

CALENDAR

Monday, December 5	10:00 AM	Prayer/Discussion Group
Tuesday, December 6	4:30 PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, December 8	7:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, December 9	6:30 PM	Women's Fellowship Party
Saturday, December 10	9:00 AM	Messy Breakfast with Santa