



Date: December 7, 2025
Advent 2
Theme: Peace, Light and Hope

Worship Leaders: Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon
Musician: Linda Kneeland
Audio/Visual: Holly McKenzie
(*: Please, stand if you are able.)

Musical Prelude

Greetings

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Response: And also with you.

Welcome & Announcements (Care & Concerns)

- **Christmas Choir Festival:** Wednesday, December 10, 2025, at Stettler United Church 7:00 pm. Admission ~ A foodbank donation. Lunch and fellowship to follow.
- **Christmas Sing Along** with Rev. Kwon Friday December 19 @ 1:00 pm Everyone is welcome!
- **We need greeters/ushers** for December 24th, Christmas Eve.
- **Worship Services ~ December 14** (Advent 3): Holy Communion

Acknowledgement of Territory

ALL: God calls us to live with respect and care for all our relations in creation. For thousands of years, Indigenous peoples of this area have tended the earth, and we give thanks for such diligence. We covenant to live and work together, sharing this land in peace and respect as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the river flows.

Peter Chynoweth, Cochrane AB

Call to Worship

We worship this Advent.

We mark the time leading to Christmas with light.

We honour Christ's light during this time of long nights.

Where the world groans in chaos, in longing, in uncertainty, in sin, our God responds with peace, with hope.

We worship in peace, seeking to be people of peace.

Christ be our light, our peace always.

Elaine Bidgood Sweet, Zion Lutheran Church, Minot, North Dakota. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 27. Used with Permission.

Light the Christ Candle

One candle on the Advent wreath is lit prior to beginning worship.

Peace is a star.

Shining, brilliant even in the midst of war, uncertainty, and turmoil.

Peace is a state of mind, a lighter perspective, a starry view on life. We are invited to turn upward, outward, beyond ourselves.

Peace is an inviting star.

All sing: Hope Is a Star VU#7 verse 2 (being seated)

Gwen Bevan, Tanna Edwards, Paul Kneebone, and Nancy Payne, East Central Ontario Region. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 65. Used with Permission.

Remembrance Candle

***Hymn Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus VU#2**

Words: Charles Wesley 1744. Music: Psalmodia Sacra 1715 Public Domain. N/A

Opening Prayer

Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God, we confess that we sin, that our actions break our relationship with you and with others.

Some sin we are aware of, all sin you know.

So, we pray sincerely, forgive us for the ways we have failed to be instruments of peace.

Forgive our short-sightedness and selfishness.

Fill us with love for peaceful conclusions and longing for a world where peace rules.

Come, O come, Emmanuel, for although we believe God is with us, we still have room to learn how to live with you well. Amen.

Elaine Bidgood Sveet, Zion Lutheran Church, Minot, North Dakota. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 29. Used with Permission.

***Hymn *And on This Path* MV#8**

Words: Lynn Bauman Music: Linnea Good, 2003 Words copyright © 2000 Lynn Bauman, from Ancient Songs Sung Anew: the Psalms as Poetry. Music copyright © 2003 Borealis Music, www.LinneaGood.com. LicenSingOnline CCLI

Prayer of Illumination

ALL: O God, help us to sense your message as we receive the words of scripture and carry your peace and guidance forward with us throughout our daily life. Amen.

Laura J. Turnbull, Penticton, B.C. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 30. Used with Permission.

Scripture Readings: Donna Boyd-Stadelmann

Isaiah 11:1–10: The peaceable reign of God.

Romans 15:12–13: The root of Jesse and hope of Gentiles.

Matthew 3:1–12: John the Baptist preaches.

Introducing Our Loved Ones

Special Music: Barbara-Lynn and Dave Goodwin

Sharing Stories or Memories of Loved Ones (Open Mic)

Message Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon

***Hymn *Psalms 23: The Lord's My Shepherd* VU p.747**

Words: Scottish Psalter 1650. Music: Jessie Seymour Irvine 1872. Public Domain. N/A

Invitation for Offering

Offering Hymn *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

VU#541 Words: Thomas Ken ca. 1674. Music: Genevan Psalter 1551. Public Domain. N/A

Offering Prayer

Waken our hearts to know the power we have to make a difference.

Give us wisdom to trust your voice, prompting us to act, to risk reaching out in love.

Make us bold: generously offering hot chocolate and cookies and a kind word to a stranger; discovering you reflected in the joy of dancing in a crowd.

Waken our hearts to know when we have made a difference, Gracious God. This we ask as we offer our gifts today. Amen.

Wendy MacLean, Brockville, Ont. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 30. Used with Permission.

Prayers of the Gathered Community

The Lord's Prayer

ALL: 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

***Hymn *For the Healing of the Nations* VU#678**

Words: William Watkins Reid, Jr. 1958 © 1968 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Henry Purcell, ca. 1682. Descant: Darryl Nixon 1986 © 1987 Songs for a Gospel People. Words: Hope Publishing Company. Music: Public Domain. Descant: Songs for a Gospel People. CCLI, Licensing OneLicense.net

***Commissioning and Benediction**

***Threefold Amen (Unison) VU#967**

Postlude