



A place where heaven and earth meet,
where people encounter God's generosity
and healing presence.

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Pastor Jim Coyl
The Beach Church Podcast

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

Welcome

Week 2 – The Candle of Peace

Greta Coyl

Leader: Today we light the second candle of Advent — the Candle of Peace.
We remember God's promise of a Savior who will bring peace to the nations
and harmony to all creation.

Leader: *"The wolf shall live with the lamb... and a little child shall lead them."* — Isaiah 11:6

Leader:
Christ comes to bring peace to our hearts and to the world.

People (together): We wait for the Prince of Peace. (Light the second candle.)

All:
God of peace, quiet our hearts and still our fears.
As we prepare for the coming of Christ,
make us instruments of Your peace —
bringing comfort to the hurting and hope to the weary.
Through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Violin - Sarah Coyl

Scripture Reading Isaiah 11:1-10 - A ruler brings justice and peace

11:1 A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

11:2 The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

11:3 His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear,

11:4 but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

11:5 Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

11:6 The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them.

11:7 The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

11:8 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

11:9 They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

11:10 On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Gloria Patri

Sermon "A vision of Peace" Rev. Jim Coyl

Pastoral Payer and the Lord's Prayer

Hymn *Awake Awake and Greet the New Morn*

Benediction

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Advent 2 Devotional — The Peace We Dare to Imagine

Isaiah 11:1–10

Isaiah's vision begins with something almost imperceptible: "A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse." God's peace does not arrive with spectacle but with a tender sign of

newness emerging from what looks lifeless. Advent invites us to train our eyes on that small shoot—to look for God’s future growing in the cracks of the present.

The prophet imagines a world reordered by the Spirit—a world where wolf and lamb dwell together, where predators lose their bite, and where knowledge of the Lord saturates creation like water covers the sea. This is not naïve poetry. It is a holy imagination that contradicts the world as it is for the sake of the world as God intends it to be.

Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggemann famously wrote: “Hope is the refusal to accept the reading of reality which is the majority opinion.” Advent hope—and Advent peace—begin in that refusal. We do not deny the brokenness around us, but we refuse to believe that brokenness gets the last word. Isaiah invites us to live from God’s alternative future even while we inhabit a conflicted present.

The peace of Isaiah 11 is not a fragile ceasefire. It is a Spirit-shaped shalom that heals creation, reconciles enemies, and gathers all peoples to the banner of the Root of Jesse. This peace is the fruit of God’s reign, breaking in through the One upon whom the Spirit rests—Jesus, the promised shoot and the coming King.

This week, let us watch for the small signs of that peace, practice the refusal of despair, and dare to imagine—and embody—the world Isaiah saw. For the shoot is growing. The future of peace is already on the way.

Daily Lectionary Readings

Monday, December 08, 2025: Psalm 21; Isaiah 24:1-16a; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12;

Tuesday, December 09, 2025: Psalm 21; Isaiah 41:14-20; Romans 15:14-21;

Wednesday, December 10, 2025: Psalm 21; Genesis 15:1-18; Matthew 12:33-37;

Thursday, December 11, 2025: Psalm 146:5-10; Ruth 1:6-18; 2 Peter 3:1-10;

Friday, December 12, 2025: Psalm 146:5-10; Ruth 4:13-17; 2 Peter 3:11-18;

Saturday, December 13, 2025: Psalm 146:5-10; 1 Samuel 2:1-8; Luke 3:1-18;

Events in December



Saturday, December 13 – Annual Meeting & Christmas Dinner

4:30 p.m. – Annual Meeting - Approval of 2026 Budget and Council Members followed by Our Christmas Dinner Celebration! Enjoy good food, laughter, and holiday joy with your church family.

Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 4:30pm

A beloved tradition of lessons, carols, candlelight, and communion as we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Come and rejoice in the light that shines in the darkness.

Finding Christ in Bedford Falls: The Reconciled Life of George Bailey

A Three-Part Advent Discussion Series

Join us for a heartwarming and thought-provoking discussion series this Advent season as we journey with George Bailey through *It's a Wonderful Life* and discover how his story reflects the hope, grace, and redemption found in Christ.

Over three consecutive Wednesdays — **December 3, 10, and 17, from Noon to 1:00, in Randle Hall**, at The Beach Church (920 Panferio Drive) — We'll gather to watch key scenes from the beloved classic film and reflect together on the biblical and theological themes they reveal. Light snacks and beverages will be provided.



Whether this season fills you with joy or feels heavy on your heart, you'll find a warm welcome, good company, and meaningful conversation here.

Come for all three sessions if you can — but if you can only attend one or two, that's perfectly fine. There's a place for you at the table.

The Season of Advent

Advent marks the beginning of the Christian year and invites us into a time of watchfulness, hope, and preparation as we journey toward the celebration of Christ's birth. Its roots reach back to the 4th and 5th centuries, when early Christians set aside weeks of prayer, fasting, and reflection before the great feast of Christmas. Over time, the Church shaped this period into the

four Sundays before Christmas, each highlighting a central theme of the coming Messiah—hope, peace, joy, and love. During Advent we look back with gratitude to Christ’s first coming in the manger, and forward with expectation to his promised return.

Observing Advent at Home

Simple practices can help us slow down and become attentive to God’s presence:

Advent Wreath – Light one candle each week, adding prayers or Scripture readings as a family or individually.

Advent Calendar – Use a daily calendar with short verses, reflections, or small acts of kindness to mark each day of the season.

Daily Scripture Readings – Follow an Advent reading plan focusing on prophecy, preparation, and the nativity story.

Family or Personal Prayer Time – Set aside a quiet moment each day to pray, reflect, or give thanks.

Nativity Scene – Place the manger scene in a visible part of your home, adding figures gradually as a reminder of the journey toward Bethlehem.