

Kilsyth, Keady & North Derby Pastoral Charge
Bulleting for Sunday December 15th 2013
Advent 2

For reflection (based on Advent 2 reading: Isaiah 11:1-10)

Isaiah 11:1-10 presents us with the iconic scene of a child leading the lion to lay down with the lamb. In what can seem a predatorial, teeth-gnashing world, God declares that vulnerability, like a child's, trumps violence.

-What does that mean for our lives?

-How do we help each other catch God's vision of hope?

-Can you name a time when being vulnerable allowed you to take a risk?

-How can our churches take more risks?

-Imagine you are a child, and that you are leading all the people in your congregation. Where would you lead them? What would you want them to see and do?

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle (based on Genesis and John's gospel)

L: In the beginning of creation, when God made heaven and earth, the earth was without form and void.

All: God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from darkness.

L: When all things began, the Word already was. The Word dwelt with God, and what God was, the Word was. Through him all things came to be; no single thing was created without him. All that came to be was alive with his life, and that life was the light of the world.

All: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never put it out.

(Christ Candle is lit) L: The light in all of life.

All: Thanks be to God!

Kilsyth - Intermediate Choir Anthem

Call to Worship

L: Come together, cow and bear, lion and ox, come together;

ALL: Come together, every one and every thing, give glory to God.

All Sing: "Gloria, in excelsis Deo!" (refrain of VU#38)

L: Come together, nations and peoples, come together;

ALL: Come together, leaders and followers, give glory to God.

(all sing GLORIA as above)

L: Let us prepare to be led by a little child.

ALL: Let us worship God.

(all sing GLORIA as above)

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

Advent Candle Lighting

Voice 1: On this second Sunday of Advent, we light two candles, illuminating God's truth. Our first candle was for peace. Today, our second light is for hope. God promised God's people that a leader would rise up among us - but that it would be a different kind of leader, and a different kind of power. Even with growling beasts all around, a child leads the way.

Serving, hoping, loving with a spirit free,

Building up community with love is key. R

ALL: Just as the sun endures, may God's light burn without end!

Voice 2: God tells us of a coming power that will be a paradox, not always easy for us to understand, but we are assured that the hope of Advent lies in trusting a truth that will set all of us free, predators and prey alike.

ALL: Come, Let us walk in the light of the Lord! (two blue candles are lit)

Advent Candle-lighting Song: (tune VU# 7, Hope is a Star)

Hope is a star that shines in the night,

leading us on till the morning is bright.

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.

Children's Time & Lord's Prayer

All sing again: "Hope is a star....."

(children go to Sunday school while this is sung)

Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-10

One: This is the word of God!

All: May the Spirit bless us with wisdom and wonder, as we ponder the meaning of these words for our lives.

Music for Meditation

Message - "Hope-filled Vision"

Advent Meditation - "WAITING"

(during this meditation, we will sing verses of

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, hymn 1 in Voices United")

ALL: Verse 1

Reader: Wise Man

ALL: Verse 2

Reader: Widow

ALL: Verse 3

Reader: Old man

ALL: Verse 4

Reader: Young mother

ALL: Verse 5

Reader: Everywoman and Everyman

All: Verse 6

Reader: God

All: Verse 7

Offering & *Offertory - VU 542 "We give you"

***Prayer of Dedication (all)**

Almighty and All-loving One, we lift up today our thanks to you. Can we ever catalogue all the ways you have blessed our lives? More than counting, you want from us our lives, our love, our time and our talents. We dedicate these to you today. Take our very best, may it help bring about peace on your holy mountain. With gratitude and anticipation, we pray. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

***Communion Hymn – 457 “As we gather” vs. 1,2**

One: Come, all who listen for hope.

Here is a place where you are welcome.

Here is a place where you can rest in the heart of love.

ALL: we come to this table, knowing our need for it.

One: Let us pray the Great Thanksgiving prayer:

Holy One, you shaped creation and placed your grace within us.

Your song of hope has rung out from ancient days beckoning us to listen and join in.

A young woman named Mary opened her heart to your song.

She heard the promise that she would give birth;

She heard the promise that this child would transform the world – and she believed.

In the stillness of this Advent season, we wait and prepare, as our hearts echo an ancient cry:

ALL: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

One: We prepare for Emmanuel, God with us. We remember how this child, born in a stable, lived a life of healing, mercy and wisdom. We remember a special meal shared with friends.

Gathering them together, Emmanuel spoke with boundless love.

In the blessing of the bread, Emmanuel asked them to share the bread of life.

In the blessing of the cup, Emmanuel asked them to share the cup of promise.

Then, Emmanuel asked us always to remember.

ALL: We remember your life, your words, your love.

One: As we share this bread and cup, strengthen our hope in the promises of this season, and give us courage to live in the way of peace.

And as we come to the table to celebrate this meal with you,

we remember all those with whom you would have us share your feast.

One: We pray for all who are in sorrow or in pain..

All who are ill or alone...

All who live with fear, oppression or hunger..

All whom the world counts as last and least...

We pray your church and its varied ministries...

For the nations as they strive for peace and justice..

For the earth, and the fragile web of life we share..

For our families and friends...

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts.

Make us one with Christ in his self-giving, that through us, he may:

ALL: bind up the broken-hearted, comfort the mourners, open the eyes of the blind, proclaim liberty to the captives – until justice rolls down like waters, and righteousness like an overflowing stream.

ALL: In this hope, and as your people, we praise you. Touched by your spirit, may we be signs of life and love to each other, and to all the world. Amen.

Sharing of Bread and Wine

The body of Christ; bread of new life. Amen.

The blood of Christ, the cup of promise. Amen.

Prayer after Communion (all)

Life-giving God, may we, who share Christ's body, live his risen life;

We, who drink his cup, bring new life to others;

We, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.

Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,

So that we and all your children shall be free,

And all creation will live to praise your name. Amen.

***Hymn for Advent**

-Rev. Bill Steadman (tune 424 "May the God of Hope")

We have heard the story first told long ago
Of a newborn child the world would quickly know.
Came to live among us, God in human form,
He's the Prince of Peace, revealing hope's the norm.

Refrain

**Seeking, God's anointed one. Sharing, 'til the journey's done,
Praying, that we do what's right, Serving, by Christ's holy light.**

Shepherds heard the message of the angels near,
Spoken from the hillsides on a night so clear:
"you must go to Bethlehem, a child is there;
He is one so special, came to show God cares." **R**

Others came to gather 'round this stable stall,
Sheep and goats drew nigh as Joseph stood real tall;
Mary felt the presence of the Spirit, blessed,
By this young child whom she cuddled and caressed. **R**

Look for Jesus in your town and you will find,
People who display the gifts of one so kind;

***Advent Benediction**

L: God of the watching ones, the waiting ones, the slow and suffering ones, the angels in heaven, the child in the womb,

P: Give us your benediction, your good word for our souls, that we might rest and rise in the kindness of your company. Amen.

***Advent Sung Benediction-** (tune is VU 48 "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing")

**Saviour, dwell with us that we
may go forth, your light to be.
Send us out, good news to sing:
Hope, peace, joy and love to bring.
God incarnate, with us dwell.
Come, O Come, Emmanuel.
Come, Lord Jesus, don't delay;
shine your peace through us this day.
Saviour, dwell with us that we
may go forth, your light to be.**

Sources: Christ-candle lighting; Benediction - "Cloth for the Cradle", Iona Community, 1997 Wild Goose Resource Group. GIA Publications, Inc., exclusive North American Distributor. Seasons of the Spirit -Advent 2013, Wood Lake Publishing.

Announcements

Intermediate Choir Concert – Monday, Dec. 16th at 7:00pm: Refreshments will be served. Free-will offering. Proceeds to Hospice of Grey Bruce and Kilsyth United Church.

North Derby and Keady fund script orders are due December 8th.

December 8: Back Home Country Show and Dinner; Hepworth Hall (beside UPI); 2:00 Country music performed by Detour, Justine Maw-Farrar, Rudy and Jean Coture, Mabel Williamson. Hosted by Hepworth UCW and Paul

Williamson. \$24 ; tickets at Hepworth Family Hair Care , Cindy's Variety or by calling 935 - 3317. Back Home Country reminds us all, young and old, of our community life and country roots.

Upcoming Services

Sun Dec 15 - Children's Pageant at Kilsyth

Tues Dec 24 - Christmas Eve, Joint Service at Kilsyth 7 pm

Sun Dec 29 - Joint Service at North Derby, 10:30 am No Sunday School

Sun Jan 5 - no Sunday School