

First Presbyterian Church of Sandpoint, Idaho

December 7, 2023, 11:00 a.m., Second Sunday of Advent

Catherine Lyle, Pastor; Annie Welle, Piano; Dana Stockman, Choir Director

Dyno Wahl, Worship Leader; Bill Love & Paula Vincent, Ushers;

Don Helander, Livestream

PRELUDE MUSIC, LIVESTREAM BEGINS

LIGHT THE CHRIST CANDLE, WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOISY OFFERING

RING THE BELL, MOMENT OF SILENCE

OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

HYMN #53 "What Child Is This" (*Chorus, Verse 2, Chorus*)

The poet of our theme carol, "What Child is This," penned the phrase "the silent Word is pleading." Our vision of the child in the manger may be the soothing lullaby and the silent night, but the reality of babies, and of that time in history, is that of a "crying out." It was a time when many were silenced, and the need for prophesying justice in the midst of trauma was great. Zechariah does this when his silence is lifted. The Word became Flesh for such a time.

We light this candle of Peace for those who need it most.

For all who are being silenced.

For all who are afraid to speak out.

For all who know that peace comes with justice.

Our question for today at the scene of the nativity is this: "How will we cry out for true peace for ALL people? How will we soothe the trauma of the world in our time?"

What child IS this? This, this, is the Prince of Peace who invites us to proclaim his reign forever.

*OPENING HYMN #2095 "Star-Child" (*Sing the Faith*)

*RESPONSIVE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.** Thanks be to God!

*SUNG RESPONSE #577 "Glory Be to the Father"

Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen....

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:5-25

CHILDREN'S MOMENT "The difference between one person getting a balloon and the whole group getting the balloon"

WORDS OF WITNESS "Some peace is not peace in God's eyes as our own hearts can attest to" Catherine Lyle, Pastor

*SONG OF RESPONSE #48 "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY Lord in your mercy...**hear our prayer.**

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY#593 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen....

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

COMMUNION

*CLOSING HYMN

“Let There Be Peace on Earth” (*lyrics on last page*)

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*FOLLOW THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

We follow Christ’s light, for we are a congregation of people,

Loving, living, learning the joy of faith.

*POSTLUDE, LIVESTREAM CONCLUDES

WORDS TO SONGS

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What Child Is This?

Refrain:

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading. [*Refrain*]

Star-Child

Star-Child, earth-Child,
go-between of God,
love Child, Christ Child,
heaven's lightning rod,

Refrain:

This year, this year
let the day arrive
when Christmas comes for everyone,
everyone alive!

Street child, beat child,
no place left to go,
hurt child, used child,
no one wants to know, [*Refrain*]

Grown child, old child,
memory full of years,
sad child, lost child,
story told in tears, [*Refrain*]

Spared child, spoiled child,
having, wanting more,
wise child, faith child,
knowing joy in store, [*Refrain*]

Hope-for-peace Child,
God's stupendous sign,
down-to-earth Child,
Star of stars that shine, [*Refrain*]

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung.
Of Jesse's lineage coming,
By faithful prophets sung.
It came a floweret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it,
The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright
She bore for us a Savior,
When half spent was the night.

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,
Let 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.

