

Sunday, December 6, 2020

Second Sunday of Advent

Peace

Isaiah 40:1-11

- ¹ Comfort, comfort my people,
says your God.
- ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and proclaim to her
that her hard service has been completed,
that her sin has been paid for,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.
- ³ A voice of one calling:
"In the wilderness prepare
the way for the Lord;
make straight in the desert
a highway for our God.
- ⁴ Every valley shall be raised up,
every mountain and hill made low;
the rough ground shall become level,
the rugged places a plain.
- ⁵ And the glory of the Lord will be revealed,
and all people will see it together.
For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."
- ⁶ A voice says, "Cry out."
And I said, "What shall I cry?"
"All people are like grass,
and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field.
- ⁷ The grass withers and the flowers fall,
because the breath of the Lord blows on them.
Surely the people are grass.
- ⁸ The grass withers and the flowers fall,
but the word of our God endures forever."
- ⁹ You who bring good news to Zion,
go up on a high mountain.
You who bring good news to Jerusalem,
lift up your voice with a shout,
lift it up, do not be afraid;
say to the towns of Judah,
"Here is your God!"
- ¹⁰ See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power,
and he rules with a mighty arm.
See, his reward is with him,
and his recompense accompanies him.
- ¹¹ He tends his flock like a shepherd:
He gathers the lambs in his arms
and carries them close to his heart;

he gently leads those that have young.

Candle Lighting

Today we light the second candle of Advent, the candle of Peace. (*Light Candle*)

Our lists are long, even in this strange mess where we live these days. And we want to do it right, we want to be safe, but we want to be able to enjoy the season. We've got work to do to put right what has gone wrong, to heal what is broken, to mend the relationships, and to prepare for the company that will come.

So, we light this candle as a sign of our faith that the God we worship is not far from us and that we can clear the way for that God to come and dwell with us. We light this candle in faith that company is coming and he brings peace with him.

We light this candle for Peace.

Response

O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

Prayer

Jesus our world is in deep need of your shalom, your peace. We need your government, for your will to be done on earth as it is in heaven. So we pray that you would make us peacemakers in your name so that we point to your coming peace. Amen.