

# 2 Advent Two

## LITANY OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

One: In this season, we can be overwhelmed with so many things- busyness, impatience, despair, and even violence

**All: As we wait for the Prince of Peace.**

One: Today, we gather to listen for the voice crying in the wilderness, comforting us and challenging us at the same time.

**All: We need to be surprised by the Spirit this season.**

One: Today is a first step of turning toward God with expectation.

**All: We come with open ears, open minds, and open hearts.**

One: God's Spirit calls us to worship and to work for justice.

**All: We have come in to be overwhelmed with peace.**

*(Lighting the first and second Advent Candles)*

One: This morning we light two candles, the candle of Hope from last week and today's candle, the candle of Peace, trusting that God is present with us. May God overwhelm us with divine peace, quieting our hearts and liberating the world. Amen.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: The prophet offers an inspiring vision of the world—a vision of weapons being used to grow food and the lion at peace with the lamb. We recognize the distance between God's vision of this peace and our own reality. We draw near to God now, asking for reconciliation.

**All: Holy God, sometimes we allow your voice calling for peace to be overwhelmed by those voices clamoring for war. Without hope for real and lasting peace, we grow distant and apathetic. We confess that we even lose faith in you. Heal us and restore our faith that peace is possible. Amen.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Even though we find ourselves on the road and in the wilderness, we never go alone. God straightens our path and calls us forward with justice and peace. In the power of that love, we are forgiven. Amen.

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

One: We take a moment to share our offerings in worship because giving is an act of faith. Whether we offer money, prayers, or volunteer our time, our gifts are like seeds of hope. When we offer them, we are trusting God to bless them and to use them. We are saying that we believe in God's vision of restoration and justice. Let us be bold in our hope as we share our offerings.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**All: Holy God, we are thankful for all the voices that remind us of your love, especially for those prophets that call us to stretch the boundaries of our faith. We answer their challenge and offer these gifts on our Advent journey, so that your peace might reign. Amen.**

JOY!