



*Mt Vernon UMC*

*Second Sunday of Advent*

*Romans 12:18 (NIV) - If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.*

## ENTRANCE

GREETINGS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING

196. Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus, v1

*Matthew 5:9 (NIV) - Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.*

## PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

### ADVENT CANDLE<sup>1</sup>

*Reader One:* The prophet Malachi calls us to watch for the messenger God will send us, a messenger who burns with a passion for God's coming salvation. "For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness" (Malachi 3:2b-3).

**Peace, peace, peace, may Earth be filled with peace.  
The peace of God which we are sharing,  
Showing the way our faith is caring.  
Peace, peace, peace, may Earth be filled with peace.**

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<sup>1</sup> Text by Dr. Lisa Hancock. Copyright Discipleship Ministries.  
Lyrics and cover art by John Stuart. <https://stushieart.com>

*Reader Two:* We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to passionately pursue the work of making peace in our hearts, our families, our communities, and throughout the earth until God's kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven.

*Light first and second candles of the Advent wreath.*

## HYMN

238. Angels We Have Heard on High

431. Let There Be Peace on Earth

*Psalm 119:165 (NIV) - Great peace have those who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble.*

## CHRISTMAS STORY

Luke 2:8-12 (NIV)

240. Hark! The Herald Angles Sing

*Refrain:*

**Hark! The Herald Angles Sing,  
“Glory to the newborn king.”**

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

**Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled.**

But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

**Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies.  
With th'angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King."**

**NOISY OFFERING**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**RESPONSE**

**Hear our prayer, O Lord.  
Hear our prayer, O Lord.  
Incline Thine ear to us,  
and grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE**

**Philippians 1:3-11**

*The One who began a good work in you  
will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

**GOSPEL**

**Luke 3:1-6**

*"Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight."*

**MESSAGE**

**PEACE & OFFERING**

**DOXOLOGY - #95**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

*Psalm 4:8 (NIV) - In peace I will lie  
down and sleep, for you alone,  
Lord, make me dwell in safety.*

## **THANKSGIVING & COMMUNION**

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Eternal God, we give you thanks  
for this holy mystery  
in which you have given yourself to us.  
Grant that we may go into the world  
in the strength of your Spirit,  
to give ourselves for others,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*John 14:27: "Peace I leave with you; my  
peace I give you. I do not give to you as the  
world gives. Do not let your hearts be  
troubled and do not be afraid"*

## **SENDING FORTH**

### **BLESSING**

**Go! 'Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.'**

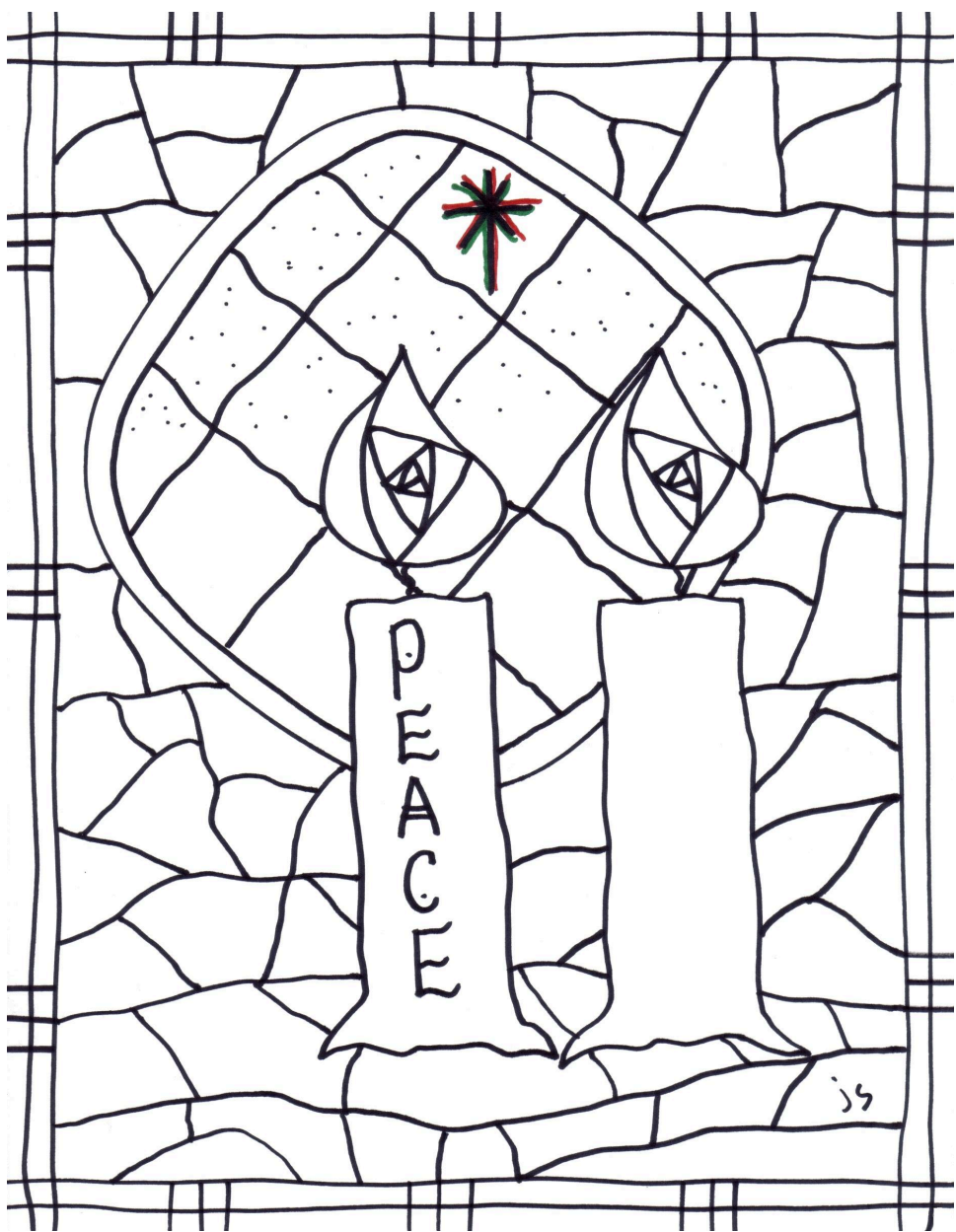
**May God's grace**

**fill every valley in your life, lay every mountain low,  
make every crooked way straight, and bring you peace.**

**Go in peace.**

### **CANDLES**

**Go, tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and everywhere  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born**



## ***Every Day With Jesus***

This year we follow a Bible reading plan called “Every Day With Jesus”. With four short readings each day, we will have read the entire Bible by the end of the year.

12/08/24	Ezekiel 43:13-44:31	Psalms 136:10-16	Proverbs 29:13-14	1 John 2:12-29
12/09/24	Ezekiel 45:1-47:5	Psalms 136:17-26	Proverbs 29:15-17	1 John 3:1-24
12/10/24	Ezekiel 47:6-48:35	Psalms 137:1-6	Proverbs 29:18-21	1 John 4:1-21
12/11/24	Daniel 1:1-2:35	Psalms 137:7-138:3	Proverbs 29:22-23	1 John 5:1-21
12/12/24	Daniel 2:36-3:30	Psalms 138:4-8	Proverbs 29:24-25	2 John 1-13
12/13/24	Daniel 4:1-5:31	Psalms 139:1-6	Proverbs 29:26-27	3 John 1-15
12/14/24	Daniel 6:1-7:28	Psalms 139:7-12	Proverbs 30:1-2	Jude 1-13
12/15/24	Daniel 8:1-9:27	Psalms 139:13-18	Proverbs 30:3-4	Jude 14-25
12/16/24	Daniel 10:1-11:45	Psalms 139:19-24	Proverbs 30:5-6	Revelation 1:1-20
12/17/24	Daniel 12:1-Hosea 3:5	Psalms 140:1-5	Proverbs 30:7-9	Revelation 2:1-17
12/18/24	Hosea 4:1-7:16	Psalms 140:6-13	Proverbs 30:10-12	Revelation 2:18-3:6
12/19/24	Hosea 8:1-10:15	Psalms 141:1-6	Proverbs 30:13-14	Revelation 3:7-22
12/20/24	Hosea 11:1-14:9	Psalms 141:7-10	Proverbs 30:15-17	Revelation 4:1-5:14
12/21/24	Joel 1:1-2:32	Psalms 142:1-7	Proverbs 30:18-20	Revelation 6:1-17

## Ministry & Discipleship Opportunities

Helping Hands: Soup, Crackers, TP, \$\$	Today!
Play practice during Sunday School and after church	Today!
Christmas Caroling	Today!
Children's Program	12/21
Christmas Eve Worship	5pm, 12/24

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## Recent and Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Will Weckhorst, , Sylvia Dickinson, Meredith Barnes,  
Travis Sherman, Mason Drollinger, Tracy Bailen  
Tom & Cheryl Blackburn

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**For more information** about these and other activities, check your email for *This Week at Mt. Vernon*. If you don't receive *This Week at Mt. Vernon*, please let us know.

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Do you prefer using an electronic version of the bulletin? You can view this week's bulletin at <https://tinyurl.com/4h8tzuyp>. If you use the electronic version, please let Pastor Rob know.

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God calls Mt Vernon UMC to:

Love God & neighbor as Jesus taught

Learn together of God's love and grace

Serve others by using our God given gifts and talents

Be witnesses of our faith in God through Jesus Christ to all the world!.

To learn more, visit [facebook.com/MtVChamp](https://facebook.com/MtVChamp)

If you would like a prayer, a visit, a meal, to have Holy Communion brought to your home, or have any other need, please contact any church member or Pastor Rob ([217-751-4400](tel:217-751-4400), [pastor@mtvernon-umc.org](mailto:pastor@mtvernon-umc.org)).