



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 CANDLE¹

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.

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

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

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

A harvest of righteousness

1:3

I thank my God for every remembrance of you,

1:4

always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying
with joy

1:5

for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until
now.

1:6

I am confident of this, that the one who began a good
work in you will continue to complete it until the day of
Jesus Christ.

1:7

It is right for me to think this way about all of you,
because I hold you in my heart, for all of you are my

partners in God's grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel.

1:8

For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the tender affection of Christ Jesus.

1:9

And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight

1:10

to help you to determine what really matters, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless,

1:11

having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-6

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

3:1

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene,

3:2

during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

3:3

He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming
a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,

3:4

as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet
Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.

3:5

Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill
shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made
straight, and the rough ways made smooth,

3:6

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

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.'²
Call on the Holy Spirit to make your ways straight, and
your rough ways smooth.
May God's grace bring you peace.~~

~~fill every valley in your life, lay every mountain low, and
make every crooked way straight.~~

~~3:5~~

~~Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill
shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made
straight, and the rough ways made smooth,~~

3:6

~~and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."~~

~~Let your love overflow more and more with knowledge
and full insight to help you to determine what really
matters, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and
blameless,~~

1:11

~~having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes
through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.~~

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.

12/01/24	Ezekiel 30:9-32:16	Psalms 132:6-12	Proverbs 28:10-22	1 Peter 2:18-3:12
12/02/24	Ezekiel 32:17-33:33	Psalms 132:13-18	Proverbs 28:23-25	1 Peter 3:13-4:11
12/03/24	Ezekiel 34:1-36:12	Psalms 133:1-134:3	Proverbs 28:26-28	1 Peter 4:12-5:14
12/04/24	Ezekiel 36:13-37:28	Psalms 135:1-7	Proverbs 29:1-3	2 Peter 1:1-21
12/05/24	Ezekiel 38:1-39:29	Psalms 135:8-12	Proverbs 29:4-6	2 Peter 2:1-22
12/06/24	Ezekiel 40:1-41:7	Psalms 135:13-21	Proverbs 29:7-9	2 Peter 3:1-18
12/07/24	Ezekiel 41:8-43:12	Psalms 136:1-9	Proverbs 29:10-12	1 John 1:1-2:11
12/08/24	Ezekiel 43:13-44:34	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

Ministry & Discipleship Opportunities

Gunningham gift cards	See Katie S. Today!
Helping Hands Christmas presents	See Joe B. Today!
Play practice during Sunday School and after church	Today!
Let's Go Bowling!	Today!
UMM Men's Breakfast	8am, 12/8
Play practice/Bells practice	12/8
Christmas Caroling	12/8
Children's Program	12/21
Christmas Eve Worship	5pm, 12/24

Recent and Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Will Weckhorst, Sylvia Dickinson, Meredith Barnes
Tom & Cheryl Blackburn

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.

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.



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

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).