

Melville United Church
December 6, 2015
2nd Sunday in Advent - Peace

*Congregation please stand as you are able.
Bold print invites congregational response.
Presiding today; Rev. Robin Osborne

Welcome and Announcements
Sharing the Light
Prelude/Centering Time

Call to Worship

*Hymn: VU 2 Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Opening Prayer

Prayer for inner healing
(Time of silence and introspection)

Words of Assurance

God's grace is given to all, bar none. Our struggles, our pain, our fear, our lack of courage, our courage are not unknown to God who promises us light, courage and strength for the journey. The abundance of God's grace surprises, renews, and restores us.

Thanks be to God!

Chorus: Jesus Came Bringing us Hope MV 33

Jesus came bringing us peace.

Jesus came bringing us peace.

Jesus came bringing us peace.

Hallelujah forever more! (repeat)

Advent Candle Lighting: (written by Richard Bott. **Gathering**, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 1015-1016. Page 60. Used with permission.)

(The first candle is lit)

One: 'Twas the month before Christmas,
and all through God's place,
the people were running -
not a moment for grace!

Two: There was much to be done,
oh, yes, so much to do -
carols to be sung,
Christmas cookies chewed through!

One: The wreath it was ready,
candles coloured and white
with the touch of a match,
to blaze out the Christ light!

Two: But something was missing,
in all of our rush -
what was it I wondered,
what was it -

All: Oh, hush!

One: *(long pause)*
In the silence that fell,
I knew what we'd miss,
in our great to- and fro-ing,
if we didn't desist...

All: Peace.

One: Peace in our hearts.

All: Peace in our lives.

One: Peace in our families.

All: Peace in the world.

(The second candle is lit)

Two: So let this light shine,
for some moments, each day,
to quiet our hearts,
to enlighten our way.

One: As we join hands together,
this great Advent-tide,
let us look round the world,
let us look side-to-side,

Two: and with all that we are,
and with all that we do,

**All: let us be peace-bearers forever,
Christ's people, right through.**

Prayer:

**God of all moments, the chaotic and peaceful,
help us to uncover your Great Shalom-
in the breath of a tiny child.
Help us feel that Peace, deep in our souls.
Help us, we pray, to share it with the world. Amen!**

Theme Conversation: Angel's Lullaby

**Sleep, little Jesus, rest your head
With a manger for your bed
Soft, cuddle clothes will wrap you tight,
Safe and warm 'till morning's light**

**God sent you. You are his son.
He has a job that must be done
But for now just close your eyes,
and listen to our lullaby.**

Candle-Lighting Hymn: Hope is a Star vs 2 VU 7

**Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,
giving a promise of safety and worth.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.**

Scriptures**Psalm 131**

Reader: Robert Foster

Malachi 3:1-4**Luke 1:68-79****Meditation..**"Isis meets the Power of Love"**Hymn: MV 173** Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands**Offering****Ministry of Music:**

(by the "other" choir) **MV 134 There was a Child in Galilee**

Offering Hymn: As With Gladness Men of Old - vs 3 VU 81

**As they offered gifts most rare
at that manger crude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy
all our costliest treasures bring
Christ, to you, our new born King.**

***Offertory Prayer**

Amen

Joys and Concerns**Prayer Prelude:** Wait for the Lord VU 22

Wait for the Lord, God's day is near.

Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart! (repeat)

Prayer of Jesus***Hymn: VU 31 Oh Lord, How Shall I Meet You*****Blessing**

The dawn from on high breaks upon us.

Light has come.

Go out into the world to prepare the way of God.

**We have found our voice. Now we go into the world to speak God's
word of peace and work for justice and right relations.**

Amen!

***Parting Song:** People Look East -vs 1 VU9

**People look east. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.**

**Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.**

**People, look east and sing today:
Love the guest is one the way.**

Postlude: Daquin - Noel Suiss

Partners in Prayer: Grace Christian Fellowship

Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference: Forest Hill, Kitchener

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Welcomers: Eleanor Johnston, Graeme Chalmers,
Joan and John Cuming

Counters: Gary and Jane O'Leary