

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Second Week of Advent - Candle of Prophecy



A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hold of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.
(Isaiah 11:1-10)

Lighting the Second Advent Candle – the Candle of Prophecy

L: Last week we lit the Candle of Expectation. It was Jesus Christ himself that told us to be ready at any time. So, today we are reminded even though we wait, we can expect our Savior to show.

(Relight the Candle of Expectation)

Yet when Jesus came, the people who had prayed for His coming they didn't see the one they had been waiting for was truly among them. The prophecy was being fulfilled in their midst. So John called-on God's people to repent, for the Messiah was near.

This morning, we light the Candle of Prophecy

(Light the Candle of Prophecy)

All: Let this fire remind us that while we wait for the Lord, truly the Lord is already here. Hope is here. Love is here. Family, is here.

L: Let us pray.

All: Merciful God, though your prophets still call out to us, millennia later, we still don't change our lives. As John the Baptist shouts to the people, "Repent, For the Kingdom of Heaven as come near!", we know that you are here, and still we don't change. Still we don't hear the cries of the needy, still we don't prioritize serving the poor, and still we refuse to meet the needs of those who are truly hungry and thirsty around us. And yet, merciful God, you still count on us to carry out your mission, you still encourage us to follow you, you still are near. Help us, Lord, as we seek your way. Amen.