



Light
in the
Darkness

LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

A concert for the celebration of Advent & Christmas

Humanity has been grappling with the concept of peace since the dawn of history. When we think of peace today, certain ideas tend to come to mind: A setting uncluttered by noise, a region free of violence, or perhaps a home where family members stop their bickering. These images are striking in that they emphasize something that isn't there: conflict, war, tension, sounds, commotion. But peace is more than a lack of something. It is also a greeting: Peace be with you; and a benediction: Go now in peace; and a gift: Peace I leave with you.

What if peace is not an absence, but a presence?

*May tonight's concert confirm in us the conviction to be agents of peace
in our lives and the world.*

Reading

Luke 1:26-38

See Amid the Winter's Snow

John Goss/arr. Dan Forrest

Alleluia.

See, amid the winter's snow,
born for us on earth below,
see the tender Lamb appears,
promised from eternal years.

*Hail! Thou ever-blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."*

Lo, within a manger lies
He who built the lofty skies;
He, who throned in light sublime,
sits amid the cherubim!

Hail! Thou ever-blessed morn....

Sacred Infant, all divine,
what a tender love was Thine;
Thus, to come from highest bliss,
down to such a world as this.

*Hail! Thou ever-blessed morn...
Alleluia.*

Reading

Advent Calendar

Rowan Williams

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Plainsong/arr. Phillip Keveren

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

arr. Paul Christiansen

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of Nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind,
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, and be Thyself our King Peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice!! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Reading Wachtet Auf Ann Lewin

Wonderful Peace Gustav Nordqvist

Peace, peace, wonderful peace, peace to the world is given.
Hushed are the angels so still is the night; Then in the East shone a heavenly light.
Join in the chorus, His praises sing! Glory to God, to the newly born King.
Peace, peace, wonderful peace, Peace to the world is given.
Peace, peace, bearer of peace, All of good will receive Him.
Holiest of nights, O most wond'rous of days; Shepherds and kings lift their voices in praise.
Join in the chorus His praises sing! Glory to God to the newly born King.
Peace, peace, wonderful peace, Peace to the world is given.

Reading The Hope of the Hopeless (from *Crying in the Wilderness*) Desmond Tutu

The Coventry Carol English Carol/arr. Keveren

Reading The Plastic Angel (from *Kneeling in Bethlehem*) Ann Weems

Lo, How a Rose Michael Praetorius

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse's lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung.
It came a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.
This flower, with fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
Enfleshed, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us and lightens every load.

Lo How a Rose & I Know That My Redeemer arr. Keveren

I Know That My Redeemer Liveth (from *Messiah*) G. F. Handel
Susan Kelly, soloist

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth.
And though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.
For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first-fruits of them that sleep.

Reading The Coming R. S. Thomas

Congregational Hymn O Come All Ye Faithful arr. Keveren

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant; O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

True God from true God, Light from light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
very God, begotten, not created!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Reading Isaiah 11:1-9

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator, children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Westminster Choir, John Semington, Director of Music Ministries
Phillip Keveren, Instrumental Arranger and Pianist
David Davidson & David Angell, Violin
Chris Farrell, Viola
Sari Reist, Cello
Sam Bacco, Percussion

December Calendar

Changing Gears Handbell Choir & Friends Christmas Program

December 15

11:00 AM • Program & Carol Sing-Along
12:00 PM • Lunch

Advent Choral Service

December 19

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM worship

Christmas Eve Services

December 24

2:00 PM Family Service

Children are invited to bring offerings of
canned and boxed food for Second Harvest
Food Bank and dress up as anything from the
nativity story.
Masks Required.

5:00 PM Candlelight Communion Worship
Service • Sanctuary
Masks Required.

8:00 PM Candlelight Communion Worship
Service • Sanctuary
Masks Required.

10:30 PM Candlelight Communion Worship
Service • Sanctuary
Masks Encouraged.

Childcare available during the 2:00 PM
and 5:00 PM services.

Due to limited parking, please carpool.

Christmas Brass

December 26

11:00 AM only • Sanctuary

