

Mountain Shadows Presbyterian Church

Centered in Christ, Caring for Community



The Second Sunday in Advent, December 7, 2025

Celebrating Holy Communion

Threefold Chime and Prelude *Prepare the Royal Highway*

Lighting of the Christ Candle and Opening Prayer

Welcome, Announcements, Introductions

A Moment for Congregational Care: Consider Serving as a Deacon

Advent Introit *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Call to Worship (responsive)

Today we will light two candles.
Steady and sure against the dark,
their flames will burn like the hope in our hearts,
witnessing to God's enduring peace.

**The glow of Advent candlelight grows brighter each week,
reminding us that peace is possible,
and God's kin-dom is surely drawing near. Amen.**

***Hymn # 92** *While We Are Waiting, Come*

Advent Prayer and Candle Lighting (responsive)

People of God, what are we waiting for?

**We wait for peace where conflict rages,
for gentleness where harsh words cause harm.**

**We wait for swords to be reshaped into plows,
for walls to crumble and bridges to rise.**

**We wait, longing for the Prince of Peace,
who stills our storms and guides our feet.**

We wait, not with empty hands, but with open hearts,
trusting the One whose promise is faithful still. Let us pray.

**O God of still, small voices and quiet strength,
we confess our lives are often restless.**

**Our hearts race, our hands grasp,
our voices rise with fear.**

**Yet you breathe calm into chaos;
you steady our steps on uneven ground.**

**Grant us your peace, O Christ,
not as the world gives, but as you alone provide.**

(Please pause in silence as the candles of Hope and Peace are lit.)

Teach us to live as peacemakers, O God.

Come, Lord Jesus, and make your peace our way of life. Amen.

(Silent reflection and prayer)

Sung Response: Choir and Congregation

TUNE: MOON BEAMS

**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.**

Words of Assurance (responsive, based on Luke 2:14)

Hear the proclamation of angels:

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom the Holy One favors!”

**By the power and peace of Christ within us and among us,
may we extend to others Jesus’ reconciling love. Amen.**

***Sung Response in Advent**

TUNE: 87, GENEVAN 42

**“Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!” So says our God.
“Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow’s load.
To my people now proclaim that my pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over.”**

***The Passing of Christ’s Peace** (contactless)

May the peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Let us turn to each other, put our hands together prayerfully,
and say, *The peace of Christ be with you.*

Scripture Reading Isaiah 11:1-10 and Romans 15:4-13

Response The Word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

Sermon *Rising from the Roots*

Anthem *Lo, How a Rose*

The Invitation to Christ’s Table (responsive)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you!**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Communion Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer (page 35, *Glory to God* hymnal)

Offering Invitation (based on Matthew 3:3)

By our gifts and written prayers, placed in the plate or given online at mountainshadowchurch.org, may we prepare for Christ to come into the world.

Offertory *Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice*

***Doxology** Tune: 607

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Christ, all people here below.
Praise Holy Spirit ever more. One God, triune, whom we adore! Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

**Gracious God, you are already present yet long-awaited.
The grace you have given us in the Lord's supper
strengthens us to live in this holy meantime
between Christ's birth and his promised return.
May the gifts we place before you signify our intention
to live with good hope, practice Christ's peace,
and prepare the way of the Lord. Amen.**

***Hymn # 95** *Prepare the Way of the Lord* (sing three times)

*Charge and Benediction

*** Postlude** *You My People*

#92 -- “While We Are Waiting, Come” -- Page 1 of 1



1 While we are wait-ing, come;
2 With power and glo - ry, come;
3 Come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come;



while we are wait-ing, come.
with power and glo - ry, come.
come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come.



Je-sus, our Lord, Em-man-u - el,



while we are wait - ing, come.

#95 – “Prepare the Way of the Lord” -- Page 1 of 1

Pre-^{*}pare the way of the Lord. Pre-^{*}pare the way of the Lord, and all peo-ple will see the sal-va-tion of our God.

The musical score is written on four staves in 6/8 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody features several measures with a fermata, marked with an asterisk (*). The lyrics are: "Pre-^{*}pare the way of the Lord. Pre-^{*}pare the way of the Lord, and all peo-ple will see the sal-va-tion of our God."