

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came Shirley Latham

*DOXOLOGY #607

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

—Sending—

*HYMN #2 Come, Thou Almighty King

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates Shirley Latham

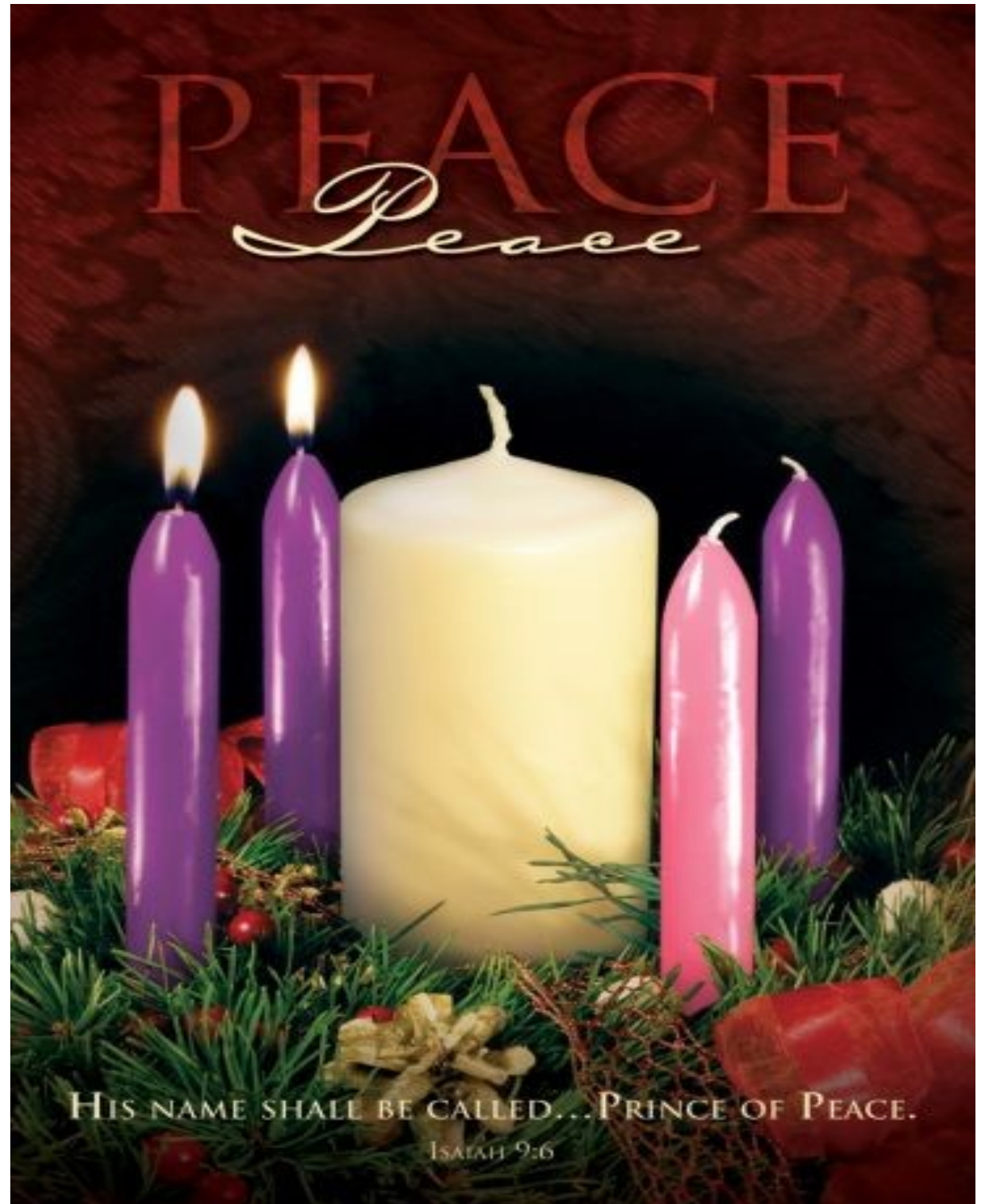
You may be seated after the light passes you in the aisle.



*Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences*



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(*) Please rise in body or in spirit
Bold Italic Letters indicate congregational response

*First Presbyterian Church , Henderson, TX
2nd Sunday of Advent
December 8, 2024
— Gathering —*

PRELUDE

Prepare the Royal Highway

Shirley Latham

WELCOME

Liturgist: Kathy Porter

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Zechariah sang to his newborn son:

*"You, child, will be called a prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way.*

You will tell his people how to be saved through the forgiveness of their sins.

Because of our God's deep compassion,

the dawn from heaven will break upon us,

to give light to those who are sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide us on the path of peace."

***HYMN #88**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (V. 1, 2, 3, 7)

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

CONFESSION

*We confess to you, O God, that we are not prepared to welcome your way of
righteousness, justice, and peace. You call us to repentance, but we refuse to change our
ways. You call us to resist oppression, but we resign ourselves to evil. You call us to be
reconciled, but we remain divided and afraid.*

*Forgive us, God of grace. Pour out your Spirit in our lives so that we may be forgiven, set
free, and made ready to meet you at the coming of your holy realm; through Jesus Christ
our Lord.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! Christ is our peace.

Through him we have forgiveness and new hope.

He comes to break the power of sin and set us free again. Alleluia! Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI #581**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

—Word—

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Malachi 3:1-4

Bible p. 838, LG p. 1088

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 1:3-11

Bible p.185, LG p. 239-240

The word of God.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 3:1-6

Bible p. 56, Lg p. 72-73

The word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Being Prepared

Commissioned Pastor: Jimmy Chapman

—Response—

***HYMN # 129**

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from The Belhar Confession)

*We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in
and through Jesus Christ;*

*that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the
church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by
word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness
dwells.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE