

**THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF RICHMOND HILL**

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**DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> 2019**

**10:00 AM**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**PRELUDE**

**LIGHTING THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE**

The season of Advent began last Sunday, which gives us four weeks to reflect on what Jesus has done, and prepare our hearts for what's coming. Last week we lit the first Advent candle, the candle of HOPE, with great expectation of the coming Messiah. Today, we relight the candle of hope and light the candle for the Second Sunday in Advent. This is the candle of PEACE. As we prepare for the coming of Jesus, we remember that Jesus is our Hope and Peace. From the Gospel of John 14:27, we read, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

**LET US PRAY TOGETHER:** Gracious God grant that we may find peace as we prepare for the celebration of our Lord's birth. May divisions in us and in our families be peacefully resolved. May there be peace in our cities and in the countries of our world. Help us to see the paths of peace in our lives, and then give us the courage to follow them. Lord, let us remember that You only are the giver of lasting peace and You are always with us. **Amen.**

**LIGHTING ADVENT CANDLE #2090 (TFWS) Vs. 1 & 2**

the first two purple candles are being lit by **Anne Dowling.**

**GREETINGS**

◆ **CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: May your earth yield prosperity for everyone, O God.

**P: May the poor be defended, the oppressed delivered.**

L: May enemies live in peace.

**P: May no one hurt or destroy.**

L: May all the world rejoice.

**P: May we be agents of your joy and peace, for this is your mighty vision for our world.**

L: May timid hearts turn bold.

**P: May we believe it can be so.**

◆ **HYMN #196**

**"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"**

◆ **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Share signs of peace and love with everyone you meet.

**UNISON PRAYER**

**Visionary God, in this season of preparation and reflection, let us see, as through your eyes, the way the world can be. Hope, peace, joy, and love are more than just nice things that could be. Help us work to make them really be – as clothing and water, as food and fire. Make us bearers of your promise to the world, that all may know the power of your holy love. We pray this in the name of the Lord, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray, saying;**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT WITH PASTOR**

**HYMN #420**

**"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"**

**GOSPEL LESSON**

Matthew 13: 43-53

read by Jennifer Baksh

Pew Bible Page 18

L: The Word of God for the people of God.

**P: Thanks be to God !**

**MESSAGE: "The Most Important Task in My Life!"**

by Rev. Austin Park

**RECEIVING OF OUR OFFERINGS**

You may place your tithes, offerings, and gifts in the plates as they are passed.

**OFFERTORY**

**"In the Bleak Midwinter"** (Mark Hayes & D.E. Wagner)

◆ **SUNG OFFERTORY RESPONSE #70**      “Glory Be to the Father”

◆ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

◆ **HYMN #396**                      “O Jesus, I Have Promised”

◆ **BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

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◆ Please stand if you are able

**Pastor:** Rev. Austin Park

**Organist:** Rose Schrader

**Pianist:** Ha Jin Choi

**Acolyte:** Jennifer Baksh

**Head Usher:** Matthew Baksh

**Ushers:** Matthew Baksh, Sanko Dyaram

**Greeters:** Kerry-Ann Morgan, Sheila Madho

**Usher on Guard:** Sanko Dyaram

**Flower Steward:** Juliet Ramson

**Church Website: [www.richmondhillumc.com](http://www.richmondhillumc.com)**