

THE SECOND WEDNESDAY IN ADVENT

December 8, 2021

7:00pm

ADVENT EVENING PRAYER INSERT

(Continued from page 8 of the worship booklet.)

PSALM 72:1-7

The Psalm is read responsively by verses. The pastor begins.

P: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son!

C: **May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!**

P: Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!

C: **May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!**

P: May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

C: **May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!**

P: In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

PSALM PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave the kingdom of justice and peace to David and his descendant, our Lord Jesus Christ. Extend this kingdom to every nation, so that through your Son the poor may receive justice, the destitute relief, and the people of the earth peace in the name of him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C:** Amen

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 9:1-7, Light shines, a child is born for us

But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness--on them has light shined.

³You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. ⁴For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

A: The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

L: The Light shines in the darkness

C: and the darkness has not overcome it.

All who are able, stand

HYMN: "All Earth is Hopeful" WOV (Green book), 629

**All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last!!
Furrows lie open for God's creative task:
This, the labor of people who struggle to see
How God's truth and justice set ev'rybody free.**

**People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell:
"A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel";
She conceived him, "God with us," our brother, whose birth
Restores hope and courage to children of this earth.**

**Mountains and valleys will have to be prepared;
New highways opened, new protocols declared.
Almost here! God is nearing, in beauty and grace!
All clear ev'ry gateway, in haste, come out in haste!**

**We first saw Jesus a baby in a crib,
This same Lord Jesus today has come to live
In our world; he is present, in neighbors we see
Our Jesus is with us, and ever sets us free.**

All sit

MEDITATION

All who are able, stand

The liturgy continues on page 8 of the worship booklet with the ANNUNCIATION and MAGNIFICAT.

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