

## Advent Wreath Lighting (2nd Sunday in Advent)

**Deacon: Gus Saunders**

**Deacon:** Today is the second Sunday of Advent. Advent is a time of waiting. We wait for God to send divine love and light into our dark world.

**Congregation:** How does this happen?

**Deacon:** God's light comes through Jesus, who became a human being just like you and me, so that he could show us the way back to God's divine love and light.

**All:** *"Merciful God, give us grace to heed the warnings of the prophets and forsake our sins, so that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer."*

**Deacon:** A reading from the prophet Malachi: "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts," (**Malachi 3:1**)

**Congregation:** We continue to wait for the coming of Jesus. Last Sunday, we began in the dark, then lit one candle. Today, on the second Sunday of Advent, we light the candles of **HOPE** and **PEACE**.

**FIRST and SECOND candles are lit. (PINK and 1 PURPLE)**

**Deacon:** Every week in Advent, we light another candle. Each candle that we light reminds us that the Light of the World will soon come to us in the human form of the baby Jesus.

**All:** The Way of the Lord is being prepared in our hearts. May every valley be filled and every mountain and hill be made low. May the crooked paths be made straight and the rough ways smooth. When our Lord comes, may all of us then see the salvation of God. Amen.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**A CALLED BUSINESS MEETING** will be held December 14th at 6:30pm. Items on the agenda are:

1. Vote on recommendation from the Personnel Committee regarding the Children and Youth Coordinator position.
2. Vote on recommendation from the Nominating Committee for church workers in 2017.
3. Vote on recommendation from the Stewardship Committee for the 2017 church budget.

**THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS** is December 4-11. We will again be collecting the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Envelopes and flyers are in your bulletins. This year, the W.M.U. will not be hosting a Lottie Moon Tea. Instead, we will be offering cookies in the Narthex in honor of Lottie Moon. We encourage you to take a baggie of cookies and contribute to the Lottie Moon offering. Our goal this year is \$2300. Please support our international missionaries by contributing to this very important offering.

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