

2nd Sunday of Advent: Peace

LEADER: *A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.* (Matthew 3:3c)

RESPONSE: Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand! (Matthew 3:2)

Millennialists, those who will gather disciples by reading the “Signs of the Times” as the beginning of the end, have been using John the Baptist’s well-worn phrase since he first spoke to them! But here the phrase is tempered by Matthew’s repetition of the Prophet Isaiah, *Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths!* (Isaiah 40:3)

We all know that the quickest path between two points is a straight line! But who ever does that? There are so many interesting distractions. Perhaps our focus could be on Repair rather than merely Repent.

How does, “**REPAIR THE WAY OF THE LORD!**” sound? Where’s the balance? Where’s the Peace? What relationship could not use a dust up and a little repair? What attitudes get a little skewed this time of year? Could I temper them a bit? When we gather for Eucharist, we Give Thanks! When we gather as families, let us Give Thanks? Perhaps the Giving Thanks in Spirituality and family is the place to find the Balance and the Peace!

Response: REPAIR THE WAY OF THE LORD!

(Light 2 Candles and then face South)

A Personal Prayer for PEACE

Leader: *“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to PEACE. And be thankful.” Colossians 3:15*

All: Creator, well up your PEACE in our hearts!

As this year ends, we reflect on your many gifts.

Encourage our hearts with your goodness.

Thank you for sending your Son to lead us to Life.

Thank you for the PEACE your presence is.

May others come to know you through our words and actions of gratitude. Amen.

A Prayer for PEACE for Our World

Leader: *“God gives strength to the people.*

God blesses the people with PEACE.” Psalm 29:11

All: Creator, fill us with transparency and PEACE!

May our quest in the darkness be guided by your star this Advent season! Turn our hearts towards you through one another! May our stumbling find an unshakable PEACE in entering your way. Amen.

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