

EDGEWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Cranston, RI

10:00 AM

December 4, 2022

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Welcome! We invite you into a time of preparation for worship. We invite you to unplug, turn off your phones, unwind from the past week, and focus your hearts on God's presence within, around, and between us all.

Words of Welcome & Announcements

L: God is present. L: Everywhere, all the time.

C: All the time, everywhere. C: God is present.

Prelude

Lighting of the Advent Candles

L: The world's darkness can be heightened in our minds and hearts by our anxieties.

C: **Our anxieties, fueled by the violence and hatred so alive in our world, shake our faith in the coming of the Prince of Peace.**

L: As we gather this Advent season, may we calm our anxieties and prepare for God's reassuring Peace by allowing God to lead us.

C: **We begin by lighting a candle called Peace, a small, but powerful light, and we pray that this light might guide our way to God's peace.**

L: Along with the candle of Hope, a light shining in the darkness of Fear, I light the candle of Peace, to lighten the darkness of our Anxieties.

Invocation

*Hymn #116, vs. 1,4,7 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Question(s) for Reflection

Worrying does not take away tomorrow's troubles, it takes away today's peace. - Randy Armstrong

When have my anxieties kept me from following the Way of Jesus?

When has trusting in the hope of God's presence calmed my fears and comforted me?

Silence

Assurance of Blessing

***Sharing of the Sign of Peace**

Let us celebrate God's great grace by offering to one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Scripture

Isaiah 11:1-10

Romans 15:4-13

Sermon

Already and Yet-to-Be: The Stump's Shoot

***Hymn**

#101 "Comfort, Comfort O My People"

Joys and Concerns / Centering Prayer / Intercessory Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

Prayers of the Cosmos

O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos, focus your light within us – make it useful: Create your reign of unity now – Your one desire then acts with ours, as in all light, so in all forms. Grant what we need each day in bread and insight. Loose the cords of mistakes binding us, as we release the strands we hold of others' guilt. Don't let surface things delude us, but free us from what holds us back. From you is born all ruling will, the power and the life to do, the song that beautifies all, from age to age it renews. Truly – power to these statements – may they be the ground from which all my actions grow: Amen.

Offering

Offertory

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God for all that love has done;

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Loving God, bless these gifts and the givers that all might carry forward the ministry you intend here in this church and community, and wherever there is a need on the face of the earth. Amen.

Service of Communion / The Lord's Supper

Invitation

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Elements
Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Hymn** #332 "As We Gather at Your Table"

The Take Home

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing."
- Romans 15:10a

Benediction / Sung Response "Go, My Children" (tune: #82)

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone;
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own;
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever,
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

Postlude

We thank Leslie McCrea for serving as lay reader this morning.
Please keep **Cay Browne, Joe DiCiccio, Nancy Soukup, Ricky Brightman, Jeff Gilborn, and Roman Crispi** in your prayers.

This month's mission outreach is **Project Outreach**, whose mission is to help families spend meaningful time together during the Christmas season. From now through December 18th, we will collect gift cards to local restaurants, retailers, and recreational venues. Clients of Project Outreach will be able to dine out, shop, or take in a movie with their loved ones. If you would like to participate, please purchase gift cards of \$25 each or make a donation in any amount you would like. Place gift cards and cash/checks in the collection plate on Sunday and be sure to designate your gift for Project Outreach. Donations can also be dropped off at the church office.

Be sure to visit us on the web: <http://edgewoodchurchri.org>

Or on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Edgewood-Congregational-Church-Renewed-871032246620940/>

Ministers All Members
Office Administrator..... Pat Kohler
Music Coordinator Brenda Farrell Muoio
Sexton Tom Ey
Pastor Rev. Bill Sterrett

EDGEWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
1788 Broad Street, Cranston, Rhode Island 02905

Second Sunday of Advent

Peace



The Stump's Shoot

Already and Yet-to-Be

**No matter who you are or
where you are on life's journey,
you're welcome here.**

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