

**BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**10:30 a.m. Sunday 5 December 2021**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**ENTRANCE**

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

Announcements *(To help us connect, please sign the attendance pad in your pew)*

\*Greeting\*\*:  
Blessed be the God of Israel  
**Who has redeemed us.**  
God has raised up a mighty savior for us  
**and remembered the holy covenant. {Luke 1}**

\*Selected Carols

\*Opening Prayer\*\*:  
**Almighty God, who has sent the prophets  
to call us to repentance  
and to make straight the way of salvation:  
Grant that we might hear their words  
and amend our ways,  
so that when our redeemer comes,  
we may greet him with joy;  
The same Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**  
*(Gelasian Sacramentary, Alt., TJC)*

\*Opening Hymn: 209 "Blessed Be the God of Israel"

Lighting of the Advent Candles^:

SECOND SUNDAY: Mark 1:4

**We light this candle as a symbol of Christ the Way.  
May the Word sent from God through the prophets  
lead us to the way of salvation.  
O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

Response: 2090 *(Verse 2 only)* "Light the Advent Candle"

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

Prayer for Illumination: Page 205 "Canticle of Light  
and Darkness *(Response 2)*

First Lesson: Malachi 3:1-4

Psalter: 208 "Canticle of Zechariah *(Benedictus)*" Luke 1:68-79

Second Lesson: Philippians 1:3-11

\*Hymn of Preparation: 388 "O Come and Dwell in Me"

\*Gospel Lesson: Luke 3:1-6

Sermon: "God's gift to God's creation"

Affirmation of Faith: 881 "The Apostles' Creed,  
Traditional Version"

**THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION (Page 12ff)**  
**(All are welcome)**

**SENDING FORTH**

\*Closing Hymn: 202 "People, Look East"

\*Blessing: 217 *(Verse 3 only)* "Away in a Manger"

\*Extinguishing of Candles/Postlude/Going Forth

\*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing

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