First Presbyterian Church  
Wooster, Ohio  

Second Sunday of Advent  
THOSE WHO DREAM . . . prepare the way (peace)  
December 6, 2020  

First Presbyterian Church is a Christian community dedicated to showing God’s love through worship, study, social justice, mission outreach, and fellowship.

More Light Church and Member of Covenant Network  
Earth Care Congregation and a Matthew 25 Church

Welcome  
Reverend David Rice

Prelude  
Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme (Sleepers, Wake!)  
Johann Sebastian Bach  
Eric J. Gastier, organ

Lighting the Advent Candles +  
The Candle of Peace  
Jack, Julie, Zach, and Seth Miller

I dream of the first pitch of opening season.  
I dream of a laundry day, where each sock finds its mate.  
I dream of family home for the holidays.  
I dream of good books and homemade meals.  
I dream of sunset drives with the windows down.  

These are beautiful dreams, but I also have urgent dreams.  
I dream of conversations across party lines.  
I dream of more bridges and less walls.  
I dream of more laughter and less fear.  
I dream of more listening and less tears.  
But most of all, I dream of peace like a river.  
Today we light the candle of peace.  
May it remind us that there is another way.  Amen

Advent Candles  
Elsa Boen, Jocelyn and Josie Roberts

Advent candles glowing bright, we give thanks for peace and light.  
Hope and peace and joy and love, we give thanks to God above.  
Words and Music by Glenn and Susan Eernisse

Prayer of Confession +

All:  Holy God, we wish that peace was something we could buy.  
We wish that peace could be ordered in a subscription service, found on a map, downloaded in an app, or voted for in a ballot.  
We wish that peace was as easy as a one-time choice when we are feeling our best.  
However, what we have found is that peace involves everyday decisions over and over, whether or not we are feeling our best.
So today I confess, in front of this community of faith, that I need your help in this Advent season. Prepare the way for greater peace, and teach me how to be a part of it.

One: May God forgive you. May God’s guiding hand surround you. May you know comfort. May you know peace.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen

PASSING OF THE PEACE
The Peace of Christ be with you . . . And also with you.

CHILDREN’S MOMENT
Josh, Lindsey, Makena, Addy, and Sawyer Conrad

CAROL
Silent Night
Raegan Bigley with Rachel King

SCRIPTURE
Isaiah 40:1-11

SERMON
Comfort . . . ?

MUSICAL OFFERING
Es ist ein Ros’ entsprungen (Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming) Johannes Brahms

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION +

INVITATION
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BLESSING AND Benediction

POSTLUDE
Fantasia in C-dur
Johann Sebastian Bach

Facebook Link: https://www.facebook.com/FPCWooster/

The Flowers today are presented by Wil, Helena, and Eric Gastier in thanksgiving for organ donors everywhere.

Earth Care Pledge: Peace and justice is God’s plan for all creation. The earth and all creation are God’s. God calls us to be careful, humble stewards of this earth, and to protect and restore it for its own sake, and for the future use and enjoyment of the human family. As God offers all people the special gift of peace through Jesus Christ, and through Christ reconciles all to God, we are called to deal justly with one another and the earth.

The Mission of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians is to strengthen the church of Jesus Christ, with the help of God's grace. We are called to achieve this goal by furthering the inclusion of LGBTQ persons, and by working for the unity of the PC(USA). The Covenant Network of Presbyterians calls the church to bear a unified witness to generous hospitality and faithful justice.

The Mission of the Matthew 25 Church: Matthew 25:31–46 calls us to actively engage the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. We commit ourselves to congregational vitality by acting boldly and compassionately to end systemic poverty and structural racism, serving people who are oppressed, imprisoned, poor.