

SALT SPRING ISLAND UNITED CHURCH

We are more than Sunday.
We celebrate God's love every day.
We are guided by the teachings of Jesus.
We accept the challenges of the Spirit.
We are an affirming congregation.
We welcome all.

December 4th, 2011
2nd of Advent (B)

Ministers:	Rev. Ruth Cairns and the Congregation
Music Director:	Shirley Bunyan
Lector:	Ralph Bischoff

**Denotes places in the service where the congregation is invited to stand, if able.*

Prelude: In the Bleak Midwinter *-Gustav Holst*

Banner of Peace

Welcome, Introductions, Announcements

Passing the Peace

Introit: Prepare the Way *- Isaiah 40 Psalmbooken 1697*

Opening Words: *(responsive)*

One: Into the world's shadowed places comes the Advent light of Jesus.
All: Jesus's followers can bring the light of peace in those areas where conflict rages.
One: They can bring peace to those faith communities and local communities who are anxious or afraid.

All: In this Advent season we focus our energy on giving and receiving the light of Jesus.

***Hymn:** VU #18: There's A Voice In the Wilderness

Lighting Advent 2 Candle of Peace:
and MV #220: Peace Shines As A Solitary Star

Prayer for Grace: *(in unison)*

Silent Word, Creative Act, Hidden Truth,
Revealed Love, we wait for you. We seldom pause, however, to consider that you may be waiting for us: to repent and change; to listen and respond with a burning passion to your truth, grace and compassion. Help us to live with humble hearts and willing spirits to receive you as you come to us through all the experiences of our lives.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Grace

***Hymn:** MV #20: God of Still Waiting

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 40: 1 - 11

Reader: This is the witness of the Hebrew people.
All: May we be guided by their wisdom.

***Scripture Song:**

VU pg. 883: Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Gospel Reading: Mark 1: 1 - 8

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

All: May the Spirit enable us to grow in love.

Anthem: I Dreamed Of Rain -J. Garrett/arr. L. Nickel

Sermon: "Preparers of the Way"

***Hymn:** VU #20: On Jordan's Bank

Offertory: Venez, Divin Messie -16th C. French Carol

***Sung Response:** VU #544 (tune 44)

In gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself to us
in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.

***Dedication**

Remembering Lowell and Barbara Hicks

The Lord's Prayer: Led by Arlene

***Hymn:** VU #5: All Earth Is Waiting

***Commissioning and Benediction**

***Choral Amen**

Postlude: Quittez Pasteurs

-16th C. French Carol

Pray for our Church

This week, let us pray for:

~Our theological schools and colleges~

Custodian: Ann Heggeler
Secretary: Caroline Bracken

Church Office: 250-537-5812
Open Tuesday -Friday, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

email: general@saltspringunitedchurch.org
website: www.saltspringunitedchurch.org

December

4th -10 a.m.

Sermon:

**"Preparers
of the Way"**