

Parkwood UMC Service of Worship
Second Sunday of Advent
December 7th, 2025

† Please stand as you are able.



*QR Code for Nursery
Sign-In and Out Log*

Desiree Davis-Omburo

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Chiming the Trinity

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

The Schwarze Family

How does a weary world practice peace?

By listening before we speak and saying sorry when we need to; by naming there are many places in this world—Israel/Palestine and Ukraine—where there isn't peace; by working for peace, recognizing there can be no peace without justice or kinship.

By practicing Sabbath and forgiving seventy times seven.

By choosing grace over hate and opening the door for the “other,” the stranger.

There are a million ways to practice peace. So today we light the candle of peace, since Jesus' Kingdom is one of peace, while lamenting that peace is not yet.

With God's help, may we participate with God in bringing peace into a weary world, as we live with grace and as we practice justice and kinship, amen.

Call to Worship—from Sanctified Art

Sarah Bender

In God's house, we can be joyful.

We can be grateful. We can be hopeful.

In God's house, we can be weary.

We can be anxious. We can be grieving.

In God's house, we can be honest—

inspired or tired, delighted or doubtful, connected or curious, and everything in between.

This is God's house. You are welcome exactly as you are.

Let us worship our loving God.

Prayer of Confession

Sarah Bender

Gracious God, we are weary.

For weary bodies that ache and cry out, we pray:

Forgive us for pushing ourselves too hard.

Reminds us that we deserve Sabbath rest.

For weary minds that feel overwhelmed and saturated with news, we pray:

Forgive us for creating so many distractions.

Remind us that in the quiet, we can hear you.

For weary hearts that long to feel the joy of this season, we pray:

Forgive us for being impatient with ourselves.

Remind us that healing takes time, and that joy and grief can coexist.

For the weary edges of our faith that struggle to hold onto hope,

Forgive us. Remind us that your good news knows no bounds. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Sarah Bender

Family of faith, no matter how many times we wear ourselves thin, no matter how many times we lose ourselves to distractions, no matter how many times we ask ourselves, “How can this be?” God's love keeps showing up for us. So say this with me:

We are loved. We are claimed. We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

† *Passing of the Peace*

† *Opening Hymn*

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

UMH 216

† *Hymn*

“People Look East”

UMH 202

† *The Offering*

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

UMH 196



The Doxology (to the tune on UMH 95)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures high and low.

Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit One. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Sarah Bender

Loving God, the source of our joy, as we turn our hearts toward your Word, we ask that you would soften us. Weave yourself in between the cracks in our spirits. And plant hope where there is room. And as you do this, like flowers toward the sun, we will turn ourselves toward you, eager to hear your Word. With openness and gratitude we pray, amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1-9

Sarah Bender

New Testament Reading

Romans 15:4-13

Sermon (on Isaiah 11:1-9) “From Stump to Shalom” Pastor Adam

Holy Communion (join in on UMH 15-16)

Prayer After Communion—Sanctified Art

God of angel choruses and teenage mothers, there are a million other places we could be, but today we wanted to be here. Today, we *needed* to be here—online and in person, worshiping together. For when we gather around this Table, we remember the ways that you always make room for us. You are always pulling up chairs, welcoming the children, the tax collectors, and the outcast. At your dinner party, no one gets turned away. Help us to carry that inclusive spirit into the rest of our lives, for we know that love like that is what turns weariness into joy. With grateful hearts we pray, amen.

† *Closing Hymn* “I’ve Got Peace Like a River” TFWS 2145

† *Benediction*

† *Chiming the Trinity*

† *Postlude* Desiree Davis-Omburo

Parkwood United Methodist Church



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From Stump to Shalom

Sunday, December 7, 2025 • 2nd Sunday of Advent