

Dear Grace of Christ Family,
12/04/2020

Referring to the time when Jesus would no longer be physically with the disciples, Jesus said to them: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid." (John 14.27)

This Sunday is the 2nd Sunday of Advent when we focus on the Peace of Christ. Because of the birth, life, death and resurrection of Christ, we have been given peace with God and from God. Having been reconciled to our Heavenly Father through the blood of Christ, we have peace with God. When Jesus ascended into Heaven, He sent us the Holy Spirit, who would then give us internal peace – a peace that passes all understanding.

This Sunday we also will share in Communion. The meal that Jesus had with the disciples, we now share together, doing so in remembrance of the One who was born to die, in order that all who believe in Him might live. As we continue to prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Christ, we will take time to be reminded that He who was born a baby would grow up to be the Suffering Servant, the Lamb of God, who would lay down His life for us. We then, are to do likewise. We are to be Ambassadors for Christ, becoming like Him as we love others through sacrificial acts of service – Drops of Grace.

Throughout Advent there have been ways for you to do just that, to offer Drops of Grace:

- **Adams Giving Tree** – check with Pastor Alex with how you can help support this event or visit our website: <https://yakimagrace.com/givingtree>. Be sure to contribute a gift or a financial donation by December 6th. The gifts will be distributed on December 17th.
- **Homebound Blessings** – Melissa Gray and Families of Grace are providing an opportunity for you to bless those who are isolated with a personalized ornament. Go to our website for instructions on how you and your family can participate: <https://yakimagrace.com/ornament> December 5 is the last day to register, and kits from Creative Yakima are can be picked up after worship this Sunday, December 6th.
- **Advent Devotionals** – you can read daily devotions during Advent that have been written by various people from Grace of Christ. Subscribe to receive them or look up the devotions on our website: <https://yakimagrace.com/advent> You can use the Yakima Grace app by simply downloading. Click on the menu bars in the upper left corner in the APP. Select SETTINGS, then NOTIFICATIONS, then toggle ADVENT DEVOTIONAL. Give us a call if you need help! 509.248.7940
- You can continue to join us for worship every week – Register to join us in the sanctuary (<https://yakimagrace.com/rsvp>), watch live on our website, our church Facebook or YouTube accounts, or watch a recording later.
- And, watch for ways to join us on Christmas Eve. We are hoping to provide two different candle lighting services. At 4:30pm our Worship Band will help us have a Homestyle Christmas Eve service. At 7:30pm Jason Wickson and Jon Waite and others will lead us in a Modified Carols and Candles service.

I look forward to celebrate Advent, Christmas and the New Year with all of you.
Because of Christ, and in His Grace,

Pastor Bill