

THE LORD IS HERE



Season After Christmas  *Grace* United Methodist Church of LA  *Inglewood* first united methodist church

Inglewood First UMC
December 25 @ 10:00 am
inglewoodfirst.org

Grace UMC of Los Angeles
December 26 @ 10:45 am
graceumcla.org

OPENING SONG

“Agnus Dei”

Voices of Grace
Grace UMC of Los Angeles

WELCOME

Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin
Grace UMC & Inglewood First UMC

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Cyrus-Franklin Family

Peace! The Time Is Now. On Christmas, the time has come. It is now. Christ has always been among us, and Christ is in our hearts, and Christ is coming again into our world and lives in a new way. This is your choice, right now: to live into God’s reign forever. The Prince of Peace has come. We can choose to live differently now. The angels, the heavenly host, the army of God proclaimed peace on earth and goodwill to all. The weapons of war are beaten into plowshares and pruning hooks.

The cries of violence have given way to the cries of a newborn God. This is your choice—it is time to make it, to take it, to become the people of God’s peace on earth by caring for one another as you would care for this Christ-child. That’s it. That’s all that’s required, is to love one another as you would love our helpless, vulnerable God, who became one of us.

Lighting of the fifth (white) Advent candle

O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell. O come to us, abide in us, our Lord Emmanuel!

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:41-52

41 Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. 42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. 43 When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. 44 Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. 45 When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. 46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. 47 And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. 48 When his parents[a] saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." 49 He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" 50 But they did not understand what he said to them. 51 Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

HOMILY

"Be Careful What You Pray For"

Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin

PRAYER

Pastor Lesa Smith

CLOSING SONG

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

The Baker Family
Inglewood First UMC