

*I Believe Even When*

**Peace United Church of Christ  
Advent 4 - December 20  
"I Believe in the Light: Illuminating Peace"**

**Prelude** "People Look East" setting Kenneth L. Delong  
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**Welcome**

**Crossing the Threshold**

**Advent Candle Lighting** "I Believe" Mark A. Miller

**Opening Hymn** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Tune: Veni Emmanuel

**Children's Time to Shine** "*This Little Light of Mine*"

**Reading** *Isaiah 9:2-7 (CEB)*

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.  
On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned.  
You have made the nation great;  
you have increased its joy.  
They rejoiced before you as with joy at the harvest,  
as those who divide plunder rejoice.  
As on the day of Midian, you've shattered the yoke that burdened them,  
the staff on their shoulders,  
and the rod of their oppressor.  
Because every boot of the thundering warriors,  
and every garment rolled in blood  
will be burned, fuel for the fire.

A child is born to us, a son is given to us,  
and authority will be on his shoulders.  
He will be named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.  
There will be vast authority and endless peace  
for David's throne and for his kingdom,  
establishing and sustaining it  
with justice and righteousness  
now and forever.

**The Witness of Music** Ann Fesseden

"Fantasia on Greensleeves" Ralph Vaughan Williams  
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**Reading** *John 1: 1-5, 14a (CEB)*

In the beginning was the Word  
and the Word was with God  
and the Word was God.

The Word was with God in the beginning.  
Everything came into being through the Word,  
and without the Word  
nothing came into being.  
What came into being  
through the Word was life,  
and the life was the light for all people.  
The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light...

The Word became flesh  
and made his home among us.

**Sermon** Rev. Wendy Bruner

**Litany of Belief**

**Prayers in the Stillness** "In the Stillness" Lindy Thompson & Mark A. Miller

**How shall we join God's work in the world?**

**Doxology** "Believe" Henry Smith

Believe, with a peaceful heart!  
Believe, and shine your light!  
Believe, because the song we sing is sung for all!

And now let the weak say, "I am strong;"  
let the poor say, "I am rich  
because of what our God has done for us."  
Believe!

**WE GO FORTH**

**Carol of Resistance** "Go Tell It on the Mountain" African-American Spiritual

[Introduction to the Carol:](#)

## **Benediction**

**Postlude** "I Believe" Mark A. Miller  
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Rev. Wendy Bruner, Darcy Swanson  
Jim McKee, Ted Loucks

## **Worship Notes**

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