

Greetings Merging Waters,

December 2nd, 2021

As we move toward the second Sunday in our Advent journey I lift up my prayers and hopes for each of you that the deep peace of the Christ, whom we await in the arrival of the Baby Jesus, will rest in your hearts and in your lives this week. Peace is a gift of God's grace that we find within our relationships with the Divine Spirit, with one another and with the world.

As we find peace in the many ways that the Holy One-In-All reaches us we have the blessed privilege to respond in becoming peacemakers for others. We share our love in community and with the world, wishing one another peace - comforting one another in our times of need and supporting one another in our journeys of seeking and growth.

Our readings this week from [Luke 1:68-79](#) and [3:1-6](#) remind us of our call to hear the voices of those on the margins, those placed on the outside, who have a liminal perspective to share with us. This week, Friday, Dec. 3rd, is The International Day of Persons With Disabilities. So often those who are living with disabilities are placed on the outside and left looking in to social and institutional structures, even churches. This week we are blessed by a message shared by our neighbour from another West Island Congregation his name is Gift Tshuma, one truly named appropriately, who has lived with disabilities his entire life and will bless us with a message of peace found by grace in relationship.

As we prepare to open our hearts to the sharing of our neighbours and to the message of Peace this week let us ask ourselves three things:

- Where have I found peace through grace shared in a relationship?
- Where have I found myself sharing grace with others?
- How do I open myself up to hear the grace present in the message/perspective of those on the margins?

I look forward to our continued journey this week as we seek understanding and grace as they bring peace to us and through us to the world.

Peace and hope,
Rev. Ryan Fea
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